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The China Mail

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FLUID
THE BEST
DISINFECTANT

October 27, 1922, Temperature 74.

Barometer 29.97

Rainfall 0.02 inch

Humidity 76

October 27, 1922, Temperature 69.

No. 18,708

五拜禮

號七廿月十年二十三九千一英

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1922.

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BUSINESS NOTICES



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TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

BONAR LAW'S POLICY.

INTERESTING MANIFESTO.

EMPIRE ECONOMIC MEETING.

TRADE REVIVAL VITAL.

LONDON, October 26.

The proclamation of dissolution orders the assembly of the new Parliament on November 20. The King has approved orders in council to issue writs for the election on November 15.

LONDON, October 26.

Mr. Bonar Law was unanimously adopted as conservative candidate by the Central Division of Glasgow. In a speech, he declared that the nation needed above everything rest and tranquillity. His policy would in that sense be negative. It did not mean they were going into the fight with any bitterness whatever. They were going, with a desire to win the election for the party, and of that he was confident.

SUPPORT FOR LEAGUE.

LONDON, October 26.

Mr. Bonar Law, in a manifesto to his constituents says that the pre-war machinery of central government must be restored. The Cabinet secretariat in its present form must be ended and the Foreign Office must resume control of the machinery of international conferences. He pledged his wholehearted support of the League of Nations, and maintenance of friendship with the United States would be the principal aim of his policy.

His first task would be ratification of the Irish treaty. He desired to promote orderly development in India under the 1919 constitution. He proposed immediately to consult the Dominions with a view to speedy convocation of an economic conference to discuss mutual co-operation and the developing of imperial trade, which it was essential must be revived.

BACK TO THE OLD TRADITION.

LATER.

Mr. Bonar Law has issued a manifesto to his constituents. He considers it very important to return as speedily as possible to the most complete normal form of procedure. The time has come to change the machinery of the central government. The work of the Cabinet secretariat in connection with the Treasury must be continued but the secretariat in its present form must be ended. Instructions had already been given to transfer the machinery in connection with the League of Nations to the Foreign Office. As regards any future international conference, even where it was necessary for the Prime Minister to attend, the machinery of conferences would be performed by the Foreign Office and not by the Cabinet secretariat.

FOREIGN RELATIONS.

The first foreign interest of the Empire and the world was the re-establishment of peace. The Government in its foreign relations would pursue an even course, loyally fulfilling its obligations but resolutely determined not to extend its commitments and curtail them, should reasonable occasion arise. Only by frank and full cooperation similarly to that during the war, with France and our other great allies, could we hope to solve the difficult problems with which we were confronted. He confidently hoped, that under the well-tried guidance of the Foreign Secretary negotiations for settlement of the Near Eastern crisis would result in true and lasting peace. It would be his earnest aim to give the League of Nations his wholehearted practical support.

CONSULTING THE DOMINIONS.

The maintenance of friendship and good understanding with the United States was based not on a formal alliance but the community of inherited ideals. The recent comradeship in arms must always be the principal aim of British policy. "Above all we wish in all matters affecting the external policy and security of the Empire to act in close and continuous consultation with the governments of the Dominions and India in order to insure that our policy will keep fully in view both the interests and sentiments of our fellow subjects overseas and all times have behind it the moral support of the whole British Commonwealth."

His first task if he were returned to power would be ratification of the Irish treaty. We were prepared to take part in making good the treaty both in the letter and the spirit and to co-operate with the Irish Government in its new relationship, within the Empire the treaty had created.

HELPING TRADE.

"We are equally pledged to safeguard the freedom of choice and the security of the Parliament and Government of Northern Ireland."

"We desire to promote quiet and orderly development in India under the constitution conferred by the Act of 1919."

The chief preoccupation at home is the state of trade and employment. Plans considered by the late Government to deal with unemployment would have been examined with a view to possible improvement and immediate action. Real recovery, however, was dependent on a revival in trade. The first essential was reduction of expenditures and relief in the taxation of the whole of industry. The most rational method of raising industry was the development of inter-imperial trade.

THE DOLLAR.

To-day's closing rate 2/5 11/16.
To-day's opening rate 2/5 11/16.

BONAR LAW'S POLICY.

EMPIRE CONFERENCE.

We therefore propose immediately to consult the governments of the self-governing Dominions and if they agree to a meeting at the earliest possible date, to hold an Empire Conference with a view to finding the best means of mutual cooperation, best to develop the vast trade of which, in my opinion, the resources of the Empire are capable.

Referring to the serious condition of agriculture in Britain, the manifesto says that the Government will immediately re-examine the problem in the hope of making proposals to assist the agricultural community in overcoming the difficulties.

The manifesto finally says that Mr. Bonar Law has recommended other desirable measures because the nation's first need is to get on with its own work with a minimum of interference at home and disturbance abroad.

NEAR EAST QUESTION.

LONDON, October 27.

Mr. Bonar Law, addressing a great demonstration at Glasgow, based his speech almost entirely on the manifesto published earlier.

In elaborating his policy, he said it would be a negative one because he believed the need of the country was to recover from the effects of war and to be left to work out its own salvation.

The most pressing thing in foreign policy was the Near East question, but he believed Britain, France and Italy would reach an agreement which there would be no danger of the Greeks and Turks declining to accept. Reparations was the greatest foreign problem. British and French aims in the matter did not differ but only on opinion regarding the best way of arriving at the result.

Mr. Bonar Law declared that he did not want to make Gallipoli and the Straits a second Gibraltar. He forebore the abolition of the Ministry of Munitions.

Dealing with the proposal to develop inter-imperial trade, he said the government could imagine nothing better than settling suitable members of the dominions overseas.

JAPANESE ATTITUDE.

GENEVA, October 26.

In the course of the discussion of the application of the application of the 8-hour day convention at the International Labour Conference, the Japanese Government delegate (Mr. Adachi) made an admirable speech which was cheered. He refuted some of the statements made by the Japanese workers' delegate and dwelt lengthily on the reform of Japanese social legislation. He moved that the conference recommend the International Labour Office to take appropriate measures to obtain the effective collaboration of the United States in the matter. The resolution reflects the general desire of conference circles.

COMING NEAR EAST CONFERENCE.

AMERICA'S PRESENCE DESIRED.

PARIS, October 27.

Lord Curzon proposed that the United States should be invited to attend the Near East conference.

PARIS, October 26.

It is officially announced that the Allies are inviting the United States to send a plenipotentiary to the Turkish peace and straits conferences at Lausanne, instead of possible with wider powers than the representative at the San Remo conference.

LATER.

The invitation to the United States points out that the latter is invited with a view to being represented at the Treaty of Sevres deliberations and owing to its interest in the future of the Straits.

The invitation to the powers concerned is being issued forthwith in accordance with arrangements already made, but excluding the Ukraine.

FASCIST THREATS.

CABINET RESIGNS.

ROME, October 26.

The Fascist Cabinet has resigned owing to the threatening attitude of the Fascists who demand a share in the Government and have ordered general mobilisation of all Fascist detachments throughout Italy.

The situation, however, is regarded hopefully in Rome where it is expected either Signor Orlando or Signor Giolitti will form a ministry.

TRADE WITH RUSSIA.

FRENCH POLICY STANDS.

PARIS, October 26.

M. Poincaré received M. Harriot, Mayor of Lyons, who reported the results of his investigations in Russia and the desire of certain French business men to participate in the development of Russia.

It was announced in Paris that the policy of the French Government has not changed, namely, while facilities will be given to French business men desirous of trading with Russia, all such operations must be undertaken at their own risk.

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made of a superfine quality White Cotton Mesh
in a weight most suitable for present wear.

A "Union Suit" of underwear is undoubtedly

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Delicately Perfumed.

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P. A. LAPICQUE—4 Queen's Buildings.

Best quality pipes. Latest Shapes just received.
BBB DUNHILLS, ORLOCK, &c. Gold mounted, Silver
mounted and plain. Call and see them. Suit all smokers.
Prices O.K.
H. K. CIGAR STORE,
Alexandra Buildings.

BIRTH.
RIDLER—On October 20, 1922, at
Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs.
Walter F. Ridler, a son.

The China Mail.
"Truth, Justice, Public Service."
HONGKONG, FRIDAY, OCT. 27, 1922.

BUDGET DEBATE.

The fortnight following the Legislative Council meeting when the Government proudly unveiled the great monument Budget, saw unofficial members busily collecting missiles, some floral others flint. Yesterday afternoon they assembled to let them fly, and the Government, its budget surplus complacency slightly tinged with anxiety, was present in full force to protect its precious creation. The result was the budget debate, published partly in yesterday's issue and partly in to-day's.

Covering altogether eighteen *China Mail* columns, the array of information and figures is even more formidable in its proportions than the Acting Governor's budget statement itself. Most the Colony's pressing problems receive attention, and if some have not been tackled with the energy and determination the more drastic champions of reform and progress might have wished—the military

contribution was scarcely mentioned and the Hon. Mr. A. O. Lang was left alone in his advocacy of the Education Department protest—even though these matters might have been pressed with greater and more united zeal, still the unofficial members, individually and collectively, deserve warm praise for the evident time and care they have given to the Government's programme. Moreover, and this is a very gratifying feature of the debate, their criticism was rarely destructive, mostly constructive. The Colony may still sigh for fuller representation in the councils of government, but until its petition is finally granted, it can meanwhile deem itself fortunate in its present unofficial members.

The Government's replies, with some minor exceptions, covered all the subjects unofficial members raised. Consequently, it is equally impossible, in the space of one article, to devote adequate attention to the matters the official members enlarged upon. These must be reserved for individual treatment; but there are two subjects, both of first importance, which must receive brief mention—labour and military lands. In view of the very strong case the Hon. Mr. Farr and his unofficial colleagues made for stricter control of labour organizations, by legislation if necessary, it is comforting to find that this very important question (labour restrictions, unrest and regula-

tions) has been having "most serious consideration by the Government." It is a thorny problem.

Last year, H.E. the Governor assured the Legislative Council, regarding military lands, that the "matter is engaging our attention very fully," and now yesterday we have the Acting Governor's announcement, belated but welcome, that the Government and the military authorities have reached agreement, the scheme (which Mr. Severn, declares will benefit the Colony "immensely") is now awaiting sanction from the Home authorities. After this long and dispiriting delay, which even Mr. Severn's exuberance cannot quite make us forget, it is too much to hope that Sir Edward Stubbs, returning to the Colony next month, will bring the glad tidings that the last obstacle has been finally removed and this milestone has, at long last, been struck from the Colony's neck?

CORRESPONDENCE.

LABOUR TROUBLES.

(To the Editor of the China Mail.)

Sir,—Whatever the cause of the existing shortage of labour in the Colony it seems to be evident that at present there is no accommodation for more.

At yesterday's Council meeting the Colonial Secretary said that the labour situation had been having most serious consideration by the Government. It is a pity to hear that serious consideration is of no use unless followed by action. Obviously it is necessary to make arrangements to accommodate the amount of labour required or if it cannot be done to reduce the amount of work in hand to fit the existing accommodation. The obvious thing to do is to create a demand for more labour until such time as it can be accommodated.

It is as though while engaged in trying to squeeze a quart into a pint pot we actually propose to increase the quart to a gallon. The result of such an attempt can only end in disaster. If the pot is not first enlarged it must inevitably burst.

All the money in the world will not accomplish that for which there is insufficient labour available. The available labour will exhaust the money without accomplishing the result.

We have difficulties enough handed us by the "Ghosts of the Past." For goodness sake, Ghosts of the present do not create immeasurably greater ones—Yours, etc.,

My Suffering Aunt.
Hongkong, October 27.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Reuter cables that the Greek prince whose arrest is reported in the earlier cables was Prince Andrew, not Prince Alexander.

Two cases of enteric fever, one English and the other Chinese, and one case of scarlet fever, Indian, were notified yesterday.

Sgt. Lannon yesterday afternoon discovered the body of a young Chinese woman lying on a rock in Taiwan Bay. There were no marks of injury and it appeared to be a case of drowning.

Found hanging from a bedpost in a cubi suspended by a girdle tape and tightly round the neck, the body of a Chinese woman living at No. 1, Front Row, Taihang, was yesterday afternoon removed to the public mortuary.

Amongst the passengers who arrived in the Colony by the R.M.S. "Empress of Asia" are: Mr. B. M. Eds, Mr. G. T. M. Edkins, Mr. C. D. Ewing, Mr. H. Hancock, Mrs. T. E. Pearce and son, Mr. A. Ross, and Mr. F. N. L. Soares.

Our "Detective Office" of the Hongkong Police Force will henceforth be known as the "Criminal Intelligence Department." Mr. C. G. Purdie formerly Assistant Superintendent of Police has been assigned to the Directorship of the department.

Dr. M. M. de Colbert, who is held by the Canton authorities in connection with the bomb outrages on October 30, is still refused bail. The nationality of Dr. de Colbert has not yet been determined. He was born in Canada, it is said, but is holding American and German passports. Mr. Ching Yik-lap, a woman physician and dean of the Repulse Hospital, under whom Dr. de Colbert is serving as a resident physician, has been practically exonerated from the case. She was also a suspect for a time.

BUDGET DEBATE.

GOVERNMENT ANSWERS CRITICISM.

TOO MUCH TAXATION?

H.E. AND THE "MINOR VICES."

Last night for nearly three hours, the debate in the Legislative Council yesterday afternoon on the second reading of the 1923 Budget proved one of the longest on record. His Excellency, the Colonial Secretary, the Director of Public Works and the Director of Education each had something to say in reply to the criticisms and suggestions put forward by the unofficials.

HON. MR. A. R. LOWE.

ARE WE OVERTAXED?

After our reports of the debate had closed yesterday,

The Hon. Mr. A. R. Lowe said:

Sir,—I desire to associate myself with the remarks on the Budget which have been expressed by my colleagues and to congratulate the Government on the financial strength of the Colony's finances at the end of 1921, the practical certainty of an increased balance of "Assets over Liabilities" at the end of 1922 and a still further credit at the end of 1923. It is very apparent now that the increased Liquor, Tobacco and Stamp Duties need not have been levied. Taxpayers may find on reading the Blue Book or the bi-monthly figures in the Government Gazette that there is a credit balance at the bank, an ever increasing deposit account with the Crown Agents of \$2,600,000 at 31st July, and investments in British Government securities of \$3,831,000 at 31st July, and which were saleable on 31st July at a profit of some \$2,000,000 but we are not all accountants who can appreciate the beauty in such figures, and if the duties on Liquor and Tobacco were reduced, even temporarily, the joy of receiving such a dividend would make cur only luxuries more enjoyable and tend to dispel the gloom of the tradesman's community. It would put a little more heart in everyone from the richest merchant and banker to the poorest coolie and the Government can well afford to do this. I do not think it is the Government's business to tax people for more than their immediate requirements, plus a certain sum for sinking fund for Public Works Extraordinary.

THE COLONY'S BALANCE SHEET.

In the debate on the Budget in 1918 the Hon. Mr. Landale complained very bitterly of the inadequate accounts of the Government and having an improved monthly cash account which was instituted at my suggestion in 1920 I find no improvement.

A summary of the Colony's Financial position at the end of any one year is not supplied. It is impossible to get any idea of our true position unless this is attempted and we have a right to this knowledge without going to a great deal of difficulty in trying to make it up for ourselves. The Government Gazette from time to time gives a belated account of summarized receipts and payments, ostensibly on Profit and Loss lines and it is true that Public Works Extraordinary are shown separately; but the Kowloon Canton Railway expenditure includes large items for capital expenditure which can only be found on page 365 of the Blue Book.

In three statements 70% of the ordinary Revenue is shown as one item ("Licences and Internal Revenue not otherwise stated \$11,600,000 out of \$10,000,000) and therefore hides more than it shows.

OVER-TAXATION SUGGESTED.

A return to the more detailed statement of receipts of some 17 years ago may be made with advantage, and also to the practice of showing Public Works Extraordinary, as well as other capital expenditures, such as new railway works under the line in the same manner as Land Sales are shown at the end of the Receipts on the other. It would then be apparent that we were overtaxed in 1921 by nearly \$4,000,000 or 25% to pay for recurrent expenses while nearly half of the \$3,600,000 capital expenditure on Public Works and the Railway was met by capital receipts of \$1,634,000 from Land Sales. Similarly according to the revised estimates for 1922 the Revenue from taxation is estimated to be \$4,000,000 in excess of Recurrent expenses while additional receipts from Land Sales this year up to July have almost reached the Revised estimate of \$2,500,000 for the whole year, and at the rate of P.W.D. Extraordinary expenditure, which only reached 60% of the estimates in 1920 and 1921 and is hardly likely to reach 60% in 1922 it looks as if Land Sales will pay for all capital expenditure in 1922.

It seems as if similar conditions will apply in 1923 as the Recurrent Expenses (based on Liberal Estimates) are put down at \$14,873,000 and Taxed Revenue (based on conservative lines) is put

down at \$17,907,000 and we can therefore assume that we are to be overtaxed another \$4,000,000 as in 1921 and 1922.

PROVIDING FOR POSTERITY.

To show that the surviving generation have not only paid for themselves but provided a great deal for posterity it is sufficient to show that Public Works Extraordinary cost out of Revenue during the 10 years ending 1910 some \$12,000,000 or 20% and during the 10 years ending 1920 about 12% costing \$15,800,000 in addition to certain additional capital expenditures amounting to a few millions expended on the Railway.

The moral of all this is that the present inhabitants outside Happy Valley are overtaxed and the Government kindly heard up the savings for the benefit of posterity though actually they do credit us with the increased interest from investments.

It is difficult to formulate an Actual Balance Sheet as the Colony's Assets and Liabilities are both of a dual nature, viz. in silver and sterling. But commercial firms have to cope with this difficulty and I do not see why the Government should shirk doing so more particularly as they are trustees of the people's money. It is obviously more difficult to work up correct figures than to check them but from the various figures scattered over the Government Gazette, Blue Books, and Estimates I have arrived at the following results.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

In spite of a doubtful liability of over \$2,000,000 the Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31/12/21 shows a surplus of \$6,478,000 which could have been \$1,400,000 more had the investments been realized or treated at their realised value. It is obvious that the term Assets and Liabilities is a misnomer for they consist of items of receipts and payments in suspense of a liquid or temporary nature only, and leave out of account the liabilities forming the public debts of \$1,485,732 and \$3,000,000 as well as assets to sinking funds amounting to \$684,495 and \$369,000 (Market value \$300,000) and \$289,093 (Market value \$21,446). Roughly speaking had these figures been shown at current values the public would realize that their liquid assets were about \$1,000,000 more than sufficient to pay off all their liabilities of every description on the same basis in addition to remaining in possession of 216 miles of Roads and Streets (no record of cost) Kowloon Canton Railway (cost \$15,796,000) and Blue Book Government Telephone System and Cables (no record of cost) Government Hospitals (no record of cost) Government Houses (2 recorded in Blue Book) Government Offices, Slaughter Houses, huge Warworks, Schools, Prisons, Law Courts, Observatory, Lanchow &c., &c., which must have cost millions in sterling and/or dollars and are still worth a large sum to-day. These vast assets stand in the Colony's books at nothing. The Government is not only a Political Institution but is managing a large city or municipality and a proper monetary record should be made available each year not only to show the taxpayer what has been received and spent but also what remains on hand of any value. Such a statement will be particularly useful when the Colony has to come before the Hongkong or London Markets for new loans to meet prospective Harbour improvements and Water Works as money can be obtained on better terms if it is shown there are already unencumbered large assets in existence besides a revenue which exceeds current expenditure.

\$3,000,000 WAR LOAN.

On page 103 of the Estimates it appears that the Sinking Fund at the end of 1921 will amount to \$931,685 and \$93,715 in respect of the \$1,000,000 war loan repayable 1928. It may turn out that this sterling investment will be a lucky one owing to a drop in Exchange but I think Honourable Members will agree with me that it is not a sound policy to invest a Sinking Fund in a currency other than that which it purports to recoup. Further part of the silver investment is made with the Government Bankers at a lower rate of interest than the loan bears, which is inexplicable as the Bonds were drawn or repayable to any extent the Governor might decide at any time after 30th November last and this

means Bondholders get a free gift at the expense of the taxpayer. Unless therefore it is considered good policy to keep local loans on the market it would seem profitable to pay this small loan off out of cash balances in hand, which are invested at a lower rate of interest.

Regarding the \$2,000,000 4% Sinking Stock (of which \$1,485,000 has been subscribed at 3%) I find that the market price of this loan stock at the last December representing if paid off, a saving of half a million pounds or say four million dollars then. At 1st August the price had risen to 81, which is certainly flattening, if not so profitable at the moment. What I have to draw the Government's attention to, however, is the fact that according to the 1923 Estimates the Sinking Fund should have reached \$383,000 at the end of 1921 yet the gazetted accounts on 5th May last only showed \$308,000 (valued at market prices \$308,000) also according to the 1923 Estimates \$425,628 should be invested in the sinking fund at the end of 1922 showing some \$13,000 increase whereas apparently the only addition according to the Estimates is 1% £14,857 and presumably about 4% interest, say £1,000 reinvested altogether £29,000. I hope the estimated figure will be realized but it seems too good to be true. In any case the account is a complicated one and full statement should be gazetted each year instead of only a partial one.

There is a clause in the local Ordinance giving the Crown Agents power to use Sinking fund monies to repurchase and cancel a part whenever the loan is below 100, which, of course, it is at present. I think it is attention should be drawn to this point as though the difference to their commission may be very slight it would on the other hand be much more satisfaction to this Colony to pay off its liabilities than invest in other British and Colonial Loans which only complicate the Colony's accounts.

SURPLUS CASH BALANCE.

This Colony is undoubtedly rich one but there is no reason why it should not be richer by employing its surplus tax revenue instead of sending them to London to seek employment. I believe am right in stating that under the ancient Colonial Office Regulation monthly cash surpluses over a stipulated small amount must be remitted to the Crown Agents in London for safe custody or investment. No doubt at that time the standing of a Colonial Treasurer and the local Bankers was not a high one, but times have happily changed long ago and there is no reason for such regulation at the present time. I am sure the local Bankers, especially those having Offices in London, can give as good rates for deposits at their London Offices as, and progressive property owner would welcome the chance of borrowing on good security, and at still better rates, any money not immediately required. In all, there was about \$9,000,000 available on 31st July last for such local investments could this rule have been altered to meet the suggestion I make.

RAILWAY ACCOUNTS.

Regarding the Kowloon Canton Railway, our short valuable railway has its own system of accounts which as a separate entity is simple and good enough as such, but it seems to have been forgotten that it is even now only a portion of a system and that eventually this will be very greatly accentuated when the link with the Hankow and other Chinese lines is completed. When this happens, questions relating to through rates will require a great deal of argument based on mileage running expenses and original cost rentals, and unless our Railway Officials can have accounts made up on the same exceedingly efficient and standardized form as the Chinese Government Railways record theirs, there will be endless delays and probable loss as our accounts primer go into sufficient detail nor does the allocation follow similar lines under perhaps identical heads of earnings and expenditure. Unless our accounts are rewritten to conform with the Chinese system, the cost of doing so will be greater as each year passes.

I have been asked to draw the attention of the Government to the inadequate compensation granted to the families of murdered members of the Chinese Detective and police forces. It is for the good of the Colony if members of the Force are brave enough to risk their lives in the capture of armed criminals for the common good, but it is too much to expect of human nature if this has to be done for only a moderate monthly wage. A man must have something more than this to act unflinchingly and however attractive it may seem to the mourner's chief participant of even a public funeral has a right to have died with the knowledge that his immediate depend-

ants will be as carefully cared for by the Government as he has given his life to serve.

KOWLOON HOSPITAL.

The Honorable Director of Public Works has cleverly tried to stave off a certain amount of adverse criticism by advertising last week for tenders to construct the Kowloon Hospital. The tenders are to be deposited by 4th December so it looks as if the Government really intended to push on with this much delayed scheme. I remember being one of a party of perspiring unofficials who approved of the site selected after arriving at the top of the hill during the summer of 1920. Although His Excellency has given a guarded explanation of the delay, Kowloonites have asked me to enquire if it takes 21 years to demand Building tenders, how long will it be before the Hospital will be ready to receive its first patient. I am informed that 49 Europeans were admitted into Hongkong Hospital during last year. The Hon. Mr. A. R. Lowe, Kowloon. Some of the cases were serious and urgent and in more than one case patients nearly lost their lives through the delay in transporting them across the Harbour before an operation could be performed. According to the last census there are over 3,000 non-Chinese residents in Kowloon and the number is rapidly increasing. I trust therefore that the Government will press forward the completion of the Hospital and that if possible they will endeavour to start the scheme earlier in suitable rented premises or perhaps import temporary structures such as were used with success in Europe during the War.

CHEUNG CHAU.

The index to the estimates falls to record any reference to the popular and supposedly self-governed Residential and Sanitary Island resort of Cheung Chau. This municipality is not mentioned on page 55 in the Blue Book but an obscure item on page 55 of the Estimates reads "Judicial and Local Departments, District Office, other charges, Southern District Local public works \$500" and is supposed to refer to Cheung Chau. The Irish Municipal Treasurer is living in perfect harmony with the English Mayor and other nationals, and the only grievance is the non receipt of the small grant. The ferry service is not what it might be and as the new Government pier is only half as long as the old Chinese one, launches cannot always find water enough to berth alongside. I trust the Government will not find it difficult to give some practical sympathy to keep this community in peace and happiness. They are powers who deserve, and are entitled to, real support, and I do not think the District Officer should get any kudos for leaving this fantastic regulation at the present time. I am sure the local Bankers, especially those having Offices in London, can give as good rates for deposits at their London Offices as, and progressive property owner would welcome the chance of borrowing on good security, and at still better rates, any money not immediately required. In all, there was about \$9,000,000 available on 31st July last for such local investments could this rule have been altered to meet the suggestion I make.

CHIEF CLERK'S ADVOCATE.

It has been long recognized that cheques from Europeans are officially non-existent because they never carry any money beyond 50 cents for current chair hire. Parties from business and private life are chiefly incurred from the knowledge that dealings in there are collected in cash and the probability the cash sum are available on the spot at all hours. The more payments by cheque are in vogue, the lesser for cash in hand is reduced to a minimum and the incentive to robbery removed. To help this movement I suggest that the duty of 10% on cheques be reduced to 1 cent. I did not expect the Government would find it would have the additional advantage that on the extended Bank Accounts falsification of a bill will be made much more difficult. The items have to pass through the party.

WIDOWS AND ORPHANS' FUND.

Some years ago Hon. Colonial Treasurer intimated that the position of the Widows and Orphans' Fund was unsatisfactory from an inspection the Government Accounts and the satisfaction could be obtained if an Actuary had valued the Fund in the current Revenue of the Colony. I think the time has arrived when something of this sort should be attempted as Civil servants are not satisfied they are properly treated.

In this connection it is interesting to know how the widow and two children of the recently deceased Government Auditor Mr. Brayne will receive the present scheme and how his own contributions amount to. I should be glad if the Government could hurry up the short to Repulse Bay as large buildings have been taken place there and are merely in progress. Although interested in the Shik-O Road, it is a very fine scheme and I like the Government to carry on road from the junction at the top of the hill round to D'Agallier where a fine scenery in the Colony exists at not seen by the inhabitants except when going round to launch when they are too sick to see it.

(Continued on Page 5.)

BUDGET DEBATE.

(Continued from Page 4.)

I think also the occasional visitor at this meeting and the press would be more comfortable if they had an extended park in this room.

MR. NG HON TZE.

—POLICE AND WATER.

Hon. Mr. Ng Hon Tze: In endorsing the views as expressed by my senior Chinese colleague, I desire to add a few remarks in regard to the Police Force and water supply. I desire to suggest for the consideration of the Government that more Police should be placed on point and patrol duty, especially in the business part of the town. I have often heard of complaints that no policeman could be found after the alarm has been raised. No one raises more than I do the difficulties of the police have to contend with, and I am sure that if the Force is augmented, the Captain Superintendent could improve the existing system. I not only agree with the recommendations of my senior Chinese colleague in regard to the Police Force, but I also agree with the Government in regard to the water supply, so as to prevent the recurrence of the hardships which the recent shortage has entailed upon the poor. I know for a fact that at the height of the shortage, some families with an income of only \$20 or \$30 a month had to pay out of this \$6 or \$7 for having water carried to their flats which was an expenditure they could ill afford. Therefore I venture to express the hope that the Government will now in view of the water supply, will have priority over other public works in contemplation.

D. P. W. IN REPLY.

FACTS AND FIGURES.

The Director of Public Works said: Sir, I will endeavour to furnish information on the points raised by hon. members affecting Public Works Department, and I will take first the question of water shortage and supply. Although the rainfall for 1921—97.34 inches—was high, being about 12 inches above the average, its incidence was poor. In May of that year over 83 inches fell, and all reservoirs were practically overflowing. During June, July, and August, during which period there was only an average rainfall. The dry season, however, set in exceptionally early (the last useful rain occurring in the beginning of September), and extended over a period of between 8 to 9 months, until the wet season of this year, which started unusually late in July. This resulted in the reservoirs being left in a very depleted condition at the commencement of the wet season of the current year. In 1921, there was in storage in Hongkong at the corresponding period 2,102 million gallons as compared with 473 million gallons this year. The wet months, i.e., July, August and September, only proved to be months of average rainfall and the deficiency was consequently not balanced.

The conditions prevailing yesterday were:

STORAGE.

Hongkong 1,432.7 million gallons.

CONSUMPTION.

Consumption 6.1 million gallons, per day.

STORAGE.

Kowloon 370.4 million gallons.

CONSUMPTION.

Consumption about 1.75 gallons, per day.

The continuous increase in the rate of consumption of water in Hongkong and Kowloon during the last few years has rendered the development of additional source of supply a matter of the most urgent importance. The percentage of increase in 1921, as compared with 1912 is 72.8 in respect of the City and Hill District and 69.00 in Kowloon; whereas the percentage in 1921, as compared with 1915 shows 29.50 for the former and 35.9 for the latter. If the rate of consumption continues only at the same and not at an increasing rate, the daily consumption in 1924 would be as follows:—10.38 million gallons for the City and Hill District and 2.29 million gallons for Kowloon.

It may be that, when a system of universal meterage under consideration is introduced and put in force, the increase may to some extent be checked, but the abnormal development now taking place does not justify any calculation being based on this assumption. The maximum unpolluted water capacity of the Island during our driest season cannot be put higher than 11 million gallons per day, and this only after the completion of the Catchment Area, now projected, has been developed to their fullest extent.

SHIN MUN SCHEME.

It is obvious therefore that, in addition to developing the resources of the Island to the utmost, the Colony must, if its growth continues—and there is every indication that it will—seek and greatly augment its supply elsewhere, in order to meet the demand of the future. Mr. Henderson, the Engineer under whose charge the Water Supply of the Colony is placed, has, for the past two years, been investigating the available sources and securing data in this connection, and as a result of his labours, I feel able to pronounce with confidence that the future supply of the Colony can be placed on a permanent basis by tapping the enormous gathering grounds lying around the hills, which form part of the range of which Tai Mo Shan is the highest Peak, and by conveying the water impounded in the Reservoirs to be constructed, across the harbour by flexible mains.

The Tai Mo Shan area comprises not only the most extensive Catchment Area of the Colony, but the Shin Mun Valley on the Southern slopes thereof, through which the largest stream in the Colony finds its way to the Colony. This provides magnificent sites for reservoirs for impounding the water of the stream I just referred to, at such a height as will permit of its contents being conveyed to and incorporated with the existing Kowloon Supply and delivered across the Harbour at such a pressure as will admit of the lower portion of the city being supplied direct therefrom by gravitation. Gaugings taken in this stream, after five dry months of the season 1920-1921, showed a dry weather flow of 1.3 million gallons, while those taken after a dry month of the succeeding season, during which period only 2.18 inches of rain fell, showed a flow of 2.68 million gallons per day. The stream I am alluding to, with its enormous drainage area is, however, not the only one which can be drained into storage at Shin Mun, for the proposals contemplated embrace the diversion of the drainage of the large gathering ground which at present feeds the stream that discharges itself in the bay at Tsun Wan.

Assuming for the moment that this district and the scheme as contemplated with all its future possibilities for extension should fall short of meeting the future demands, there is no other district within British territory that could do so. From the very rough surveys available at present, it seems probable that storage reservoirs of an aggregate capacity of 3,000 million gallons can be provided in the Shin Mun Valley, with a minimum of masonry work in the shape of dams. On the other hand, it is estimated that 1,300 lineal yards of open conduit and 3,100 lineal yards of tunnel will have to be formed to carry the supply to the proposed Filter Beds near the Kowloon Reservoir. From this point the main would branch off to the Kowloon Supply, and the other, by a route not yet decided, to Kowloon Point, from which place, it is anticipated, it would cross the Harbour and deliver the supply to a Service Tank probably formed in the hollow of the hill of the Public Gardens which would, after the completion of the works, remain as we see them at present.

There is much to be done in obtaining and collating the necessary data for the preparation of the detailed survey and in deciding upon the most economic and advantageous sites, before a definite and complete scheme can be submitted, but a Survey Staff are already located on the site, and every endeavour is being made by Mr. Henderson to bring the scheme, should it be approved, into use at the earliest possible moment. Even with the greatest expedition, it is scarcely possible that a supply would be available in Hongkong from this source within the next three years.

In the meantime the immediate need is being met by the construction of the Catchments referred to in the estimates now under discussion. Work has already been commenced on one of them, the Stanley Mound East, which will be 12,140 feet in length with sectional capacity equal to carrying off one inch of the collectable rainfall per-hour from a drainage area of 400 acres. It will come into use gradually as each length is completed, and should be finished and in full use within 12 months from now. If it had been in operation since Taitam ceased to overflow in July, 1921, and under the weather conditions which prevailed subsequently, it is estimated that the water supply would, taking a conservative basis, have been augmented by 304 million gallons.

The particulars of the other catchments, for the construction of which provision is made in the Estimates are as follows:—
Stanley Mound West, 8,600 feet long, 160 acres, cost \$95,000. Date of completion 1.6.24.
Jardine's Look Out, 6,200 feet long, 75 acres, cost \$20,000. Date of completion 1.6.24.

KOWLOON PROJECTS.

In Kowloon, the works projected to meet immediate demand are:

(a) The extension of the existing Kowloon Catchment, for a length of 10,800 feet, which will drain an additional area of 346 acres of Catchment Area at an estimated cost of \$170,000.

(b) The construction of a small Reservoir at Shek Lai Pui—a valley close to, but at a higher level than the existing Reservoir. By the erection of two comparative small dams, a Reservoir of about 120 million gallons capacity can be formed, the Catchment Area of which, however, will be comparatively small. It, however, appears to be the best possible solution for quickly augmenting the existing supply.

It will deliver the impounded water into the existing one so that no Filter Beds or long lengths of pipe lines will be required to complete it. In fact, it is simply an extension of the latter. The capacity of the existing works is 1.75 million gallons per day which will be increased to 2.4 million gallons daily by these proposals.

Before leaving this subject I will just refer to a point I have heard raised, to the effect that Taitam-Tak already overflows in flood time involving a certain amount of waste which, by the addition of the proposed Catchments will be increased. The answer to this is the impossibility of designing economic works which would meet all variations of rainfall. Should the rains come all together in the early months of the wet season, reservoirs of enormous storage capacity would be required to contain the water available; but such an occurrence is unusual, and the cost of providing for it would be almost prohibitive.

BUILDING COSTS.

With regard to the cost of building, the Hon. Colonial Secretary will probably be speaking with regard to this later. I would, however, state that there is little indication in the near future of any reduction in the cost of building. The very desirable suppression of child labour, the increasing strength of trade unions, the shortage of labour and other factors preclude any possibility in this direction.

The price of bricks is undoubtedly a great factor in the cost of building. The demand for bricks for some time past has been so great that the manufacturers could not meet it, but I was informed on reliable authority, when recently in Canton, that large quantities are now obtainable—but only at a price. It is possible that the price may be reduced, but not, I am afraid, to any appreciable extent. Chinese interested in these matters have been approached with a view to inducing them to start brickfields in British Territory more particularly near the Railway at Lo Po; and I am hopeful that negotiations now in progress may result in the establishment of such works.

GOVERNMENT BRICKS?

The question as to whether the Government should manufacture its own bricks for the many public works is also incidental thereto. I am not, however, prepared to recommend such an undertaking for, in spite of the reference to the Quarry, which the hon. member Mr. Parr, has been pleased to make as being operated successfully, it has proved an object lesson as to the difficulties to be encountered in running concerns of that nature by direct labour, and these difficulties would be magnified if the works were at a distance from headquarters. I am disposed to think that Government might assist matters by purchasing large quantities of standard-sized bricks to be delivered over considerable periods, storing them in bulk at certain convenient points, and delivering them by lorry to the works. It is possible that where transport and storage were co-ordinated, a better and cheaper brick might be obtained.

FACILITIES FOR CONTRACTORS.

This increasing upward tendency of the cost of labour renders it necessary to reconsider whether former axioms that native labour was cheaper than machinery holds good to-day. It is probable that a check can only be placed on such rising prices by installing labour saving machinery and by making the best use of mechanical transport wherever possible. An economy could probably be effected by Government providing the necessary machinery, locomotives, trucks and service trucks required for carrying out the larger works. The cost of such plant must be a very expensive item to contractors, particularly so when its use may have to be confined to one contract only; and this risk has not only to be paid for, but the cost involved must often deter contractors from tendering. The Government could make more or less continuous use of plants by lending it out from contractor to contractor and thus spread such cost over a longer period. This matter is at present under consideration.

Another factor with which contractors have to contend here is the lack of water-side facilities; there is

little quay storage space for either receiving or transporting building materials, earth, etc.; this question is also at present receiving the serious consideration of the Town Planning Committee.

WATER BOAT DOCK.

With regard to the annual revenue expected from the Water-Boat Dock at Lai chi kok, it is estimated that the gross receipts from the Lai-chi-hok supply this year will be \$65,000. It is further anticipated that this amount will continue to increase in the increasing ratio now obtaining. Hon. members should bear in mind that the existing supply station is, and always has been, of a very temporary character and certainly no credit to the Colony. A new Dock of some kind was a case of Hobson's choice, because the land, or rather water, on which the present station functions, has been sold to be reclaimed in accordance with the laying-out scheme for that district. The new Dock will be designed and equipped to permit of the water-boats taking their loads aboard in a minimum of time.

TYTAM TUK PUMPING PLANT.

Full particulars of the requirements of the Tytam Tuk pumping plant were sent home to the Crown Agents for submission to their Consulting Engineer to report on the respective merits of steam and electrical pumping. This report, which advised the adoption of steam plant, was received in July, and, after full consideration from all points of view, it has been decided to follow the Consulting Engineer's advice. The comparative costs are based on figures taken from the Consulting Engineer's (Mr. Fairley's) letter, dated June 1, 1922, and data locally supplied for revised cost of electrical pumps:—

Electrical pumps, two sets, £20,950.
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(Continued on page 8.)

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Cargo accepted on Through Bills of Lading for transshipment at San Francisco to weekly sailings for principal Atlantic Ports.

CHINA MAIL STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

PRINCE'S BUILDING, Telokong, PASSENGER DEPT. Tel. FRIGHT DEPT. & AGENT. Central No. 1933. Cable add. "CHMAIL"

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA COAST PORT SERVICE.

REGULAR SERVICE of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having good Accommodation for First Class Passengers, Electric Light and Fans in Saloons and Cabins. Free Port Call.

SWATOW, AMOY & FOCHOW.

AND RETURN. (Occupying 8 to 10 Days)

SEAWORTHY: Capt. W. S. Turnbull. FRIDAY, 27th Oct. at 12 Noon.

HAIPHONG: Capt. W. O. Pasmore. TUESDAY, 31st Oct. at 1 P.M.

HAICHING: Capt. J. S. Thomson. FRIDAY, 3rd Nov. at 1 P.M.

SWATOW.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier). For FREIGHT and PASSAGE apply to—

DOUGLAS LAFRAIK & CO.

General Managers.

"ELLERMAN" LINE

(ELLERMAN & BUCKNALL S.S. CO., LTD.)

UNITED KINGDOM & CONTINENT SERVICE.

OUTWARDS.

"CITY OF PARIS" 10th Nov. Shanghai, Kobe & Yokohama.

HOMWARDS.

"CITY OF OR" 1st Nov. Genoa, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Hamburg.

PASSENGER SERVICE.

"CITY OF PARIS" Mtd. Dec. Marseilles and London.

"CITY OF YORK" Evg. Feb. Marseilles and London.

"CITY OF SIN" Mtd. Apr. Marseilles and London.

"CITY OF POONA" Mtd. Apr. Marseilles and London.

Subject to change without notice.

For further particulars apply to—

REISS & CO., THE BANK LINE, LTD.,

Canton. Tel. Central 780.

KERR STEAMSHIP CO. INC. N.Y.

REGULAR MONTHLY SERVICE Between

YAN AN, CHINA, MANILA AND NEW YORK

via PANAMA CANAL.

Steamer From Expected Sailing For

For Freight and Further Particulars apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,

Agents.

SHIPPING

C. N. C. CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SA LING SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

FOR STEAMERS TO SAIL

HONGKONG, PAKHOI AND HAIPHONG: KAIPOH Tomorrow 10 a.m.

WEIHAIWEI, CHEFOO AND TIENTSIN: KAIPOH Tomorrow Noon

SHANGHAI AND TINGTAO: KAIPOH 30th Night

SHANGHAI: CHIKIANG Oct. 30th 4 p.m.

SWATOW, HOIHOW & SINGAPORE: CHIKIANG Oct. 30th 10 a.m.

SWATOW AND BANGKOK: CHIKIANG Oct. 30th 10 a.m.

MANILA, DEBU & ILOILO: CHIKIANG Oct. 30th 4 p.m.

SAIGON: SHAN Oct. 31st 9 a.m.

SHANGHAI AND TINGTAO: YINGCHOW Oct. 31st 9 a.m.

CHIEFOO AND NEWCHOW: YINGCHOW Oct. 31st 9 a.m.

WEIHAIWEI, CHEFOO AND TIENTSIN: YUNNAN Oct. 31st 4 p.m.

SAIGON: WUNU Nov. 1st 1st Night

SHANGHAI LINE—PASSENGERS, MAIL and CARGO. Excellent

Saloon accommodation, amiable, Electric Fans in Saloon and State

rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong, Shanghai

(three weekly) and Tientsin (weekly), taking cargo on through Bills of Lading

to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai,

avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

BANGKOK LINE—Weekly Service to and from Bangkok via Swatow.

For Freight or Passage apply to—

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

(John Swire & Sons Ltd.)

AGENTS.

Telephone Central No. 23.

STRUTHERS & BARRY.

OPERATING U.S. GOVERNMENT SHIPS.

EXPRESS FREIGHT SERVICE.

TO LOS ANGELES AND SAN FRANCISCO FROM HONGKONG BY DIRECT ROUTE.

U.S.S.B. "Dewey" ... Due Hongkong 28th October.

U.S.S.B. "Elkridge" ... Due Hongkong 10th Nov.

U.S.S.B. "Elkridge" ... Leaves Hongkong 12th Nov.

CARGO ACCEPTED FOR TRANSHIPMENT AT SAN FRANCISCO TO WEEKLY

SAILINGS FOR ATLANTIC SEABOARD PORTS. THROUGH BILLS OF

LADING ISSUED TO U.S. AND CANADIAN OVERLAND POINT.

TO MANILA, SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, SAMARANG AND SOURABAYA.

U.S.S.B. "West Chopaka" ... Due Hongkong 2nd Nov.

U.S.S.B. "West Chopaka" ... Leaves Hongkong 3rd Nov.

U.S.S.B. "West Chopaka" ... Due Hongkong 22nd Nov.

U.S.S.B. "West Chopaka" ... Leaves Hongkong 23rd Nov.

THROUGH BILLS OF LADING ISSUED TO ALL PORTS NOT SERVED.

FOR FULL INFORMATION APPLY TO

STRUTHERS & BARRY.

L. EVERETT, General Agent for JAPAN-CHINA-AMERICA LINE, INDO-CHINA-AMERICA LINE AND JAVA.

1st Floor, Powell's Building, Phone Central No. 3008, G. F. BRADFORD, Rev. Agt.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINE

OUTWARD From Hamburg, Rotterdam and Amsterdam.

M.V. "BRAND" Due about 31st Oct.

S.S. "FRUSSEN" Due about 14th Dec.

HOMEWARD For Trieste, Rotterdam and Hamburg.

M.V. "BRAND" Sailing about 23rd Nov.

M.V. "BRAND" Sailing about 7th Dec.

S/S "FRUSSEN" Sailing about 16th Jan. 1923.

AGENTS:

ARNHOLD BROTHERS & CO., LTD.

1A, Chater Road. Phone Central No. 1500.

Canton—Gardner & Co. Macao—A. A. de Mello.

Swatow—Gardner & Co. Amoy—Friedberg & Co.

Foochow—Gardner & Co. Manila—Homeward E. Viegmann & Co.

PORTLAND DIRECT

and transshipment for New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah,

Charleston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston.

COLUMBIA PACIFIC SHIPPING CO.

OPERATING UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT SHIPS

VESSLS: U.S.S.B. "MONTAGUE" 3rd Nov. SAILING ABOUT 4th Nov.

ARNHOLD BROTHERS & CO., LTD.

1A, Chater Road. Phone Central 1500.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS AND PASSENGERS.

VESSELS DUE

FROM JAPAN.

Nov. 12.—J.O.L. Tjiboda.

FROM MANILA.

Nov. 2.—U.S.S.B. West Chopaka.

12.—U.S.S.B. West Farolan.

FROM BANGKOK.

Nov. 14.—E. A. Banks.

FROM SINGAPORE.

Oct. 27.—N.Y.K. Kawachi Maru.

Nov. 2.—N.Y.K. Yamagata Maru.

16.—B. I. Japan.

22.—S. & B. West Farolan.

FROM BOMBAY.

Nov. 3.—N.Y.K. Kamakura Maru.

FROM CALCUTTA.

Oct. 29.—N.Y.K. Yamagata Maru.

Nov. 12.—B. I. Gregory Apar.

FROM SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

Oct. 20.—E. & A. St. Albans.

SHIPPING **P. & O.-BRITISH INDIA** **APCAR AND** **EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN** **LINE**

(COMPANIES INCORPORATED IN ENGLAND)

MAIL AND PASSENGER SERVICES

STRAITS, JAVA, BURMA, CEYLON, INDIA, PERSIAN GULF, WEST INDIES, MAURITIUS, EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA, AUSTRALASIA, INCLUDING NEW ZEALAND AND QUEENSLAND PORTS, RED SEA, ROYAL, EUROPE, &c.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL FORTNIGHTLY

DIRECT ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS.

(Under Contract with H.M. Government.)

S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"DONGOLA"	8,050	28th Nov.	MAURITIUS, LONDON & A'WOP.
"NANRIN"	7,000	22nd Nov.	MAURITIUS, LONDON & A'WOP.
"SIBERIA"	6,700	2nd Nov.	Singapore, Penang, Colbo & B'way.
"KARMA"	9,000	27th Dec.	MAURITIUS, LONDON & A'WOP.
"PLASSY"	7,300	10th Jan. 1923	do.
"SAPINDA"	4,550	24th Jan.	do.
"NELORE"	6,850	7th Feb.	do.
"DELTA"	5,000	21st Feb.	do.

BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS (South)

"TANDA"	7,000	28th Oct.	Calcutta via Singapore and Penang.
"SIRI"	5,100	3rd Nov.	Singapore, Penang and Calcutta.
"GREGORY APCAR"	4,450	14th Nov.	Calcutta.

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

"ST. ALBANS"	4,500	1st Nov.	Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney at 3 p.m.
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Frequent connections from Australia with the following:-
 The Union S.S. Company's steamers to the United Kingdom via New Zealand, Vancouver, San Francisco, etc.
 The P. & O. Royal Mail steamers to London via Suez Canal.
 The P. & O. Branch Service of steamers to London via the Cape.
 The New Zealand Shipping Company's steamers for Southampton and London via Panama Canal.

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

"EDRA"	5,100	29th Oct.	Amoy only.
"KARMA"	9,000	4th Nov.	Shanghai and Japan.
"SIBERIA"	6,700	24th Sept.	Shanghai.

All dates are approximate and subject to alteration without notice.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS.

Passengers for Hongkong must deliver their own Hotel expenses at Singapore while waiting for the on carrying steamer.

Saloon Passengers may travel by B.I.S.N. Company's steamers between Singapore and Calcutta or Singapore and Madras in lieu of the section of their P. & O. Ticket Singapore to Colombo.

All Cabins are fitted with Electric Fans free of charge.

Parcel Messengers not more than 24 ft. x 2 ft. x 1 ft. will be received at the Company's Office up to noon on the day previous to sailing.

For Further Information, Passage Rates, Freight, Handbooks, etc., apply to:-

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.

23, Des Vaux Road Central, HONGKONG Agents.

E. HING & CO.

LARGE STOCK OF SHIPBUILDING MATERIALS,

viz. Steel Ship Plates, Angles and Bars.

Also Shipchandlery Articles.

Telephone No. 1116. 25, Wing Woo Street, Central.

T. K. K. **TOYO KISEN KAISHA.**

Reduced Fare to Europe U.S.C. \$20.50 First Class Throughfare.

HONGKONG TO SAN FRANCISCO.

VIA SHANGHAI, THE INLAND SEA, JAPAN & HONOLULU.

"THE PATHWAY OF THE SUN"

STEAMERS. TONS. LEAVE HONGKONG.

SHINYO MARU 22,000 Nov. 2nd.

SIBERIA MARU 22,000 Nov. 15th.

TAIYO MARU 22,000 Nov. 29th.

TAIYO MARU 22,000 Dec. 13th.

KOREA MARU 22,000 Dec. 27th.

Call at Dairen.

Call at Manila.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

HONGKONG TO VALPARAISO.

VIA MANILA, KEBUJUNG JAPAN, HONOLULU, HILO, SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO MANZANILLO, BALBOA, CALLAO, MOLLENDU, ARIKA AND IQUIQUE.

THROUGH BY TRANS-ANDAL ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

STEAMERS. TONS. LEAVE HONGKONG.

SEIYO MARU 11,000 Nov. 25th.

TAIYO MARU 22,000 Jan. 10th 1923.

GINYO MARU 22,000 Mar. 4th 1923.

Call at Keelung.

For full information regarding passengers' freight and sailings, apply to:-

Y. TSUTSUMI, Manager, King's Building, Tel. Central Nos. 2274 & 2275

Agent: Canton; Mitsui Bussan Kaisha Ltd.

THE EAST ASIATIC CO., LTD. **COPENHAGEN.**

Regular Freight and Passenger Service for Bangkok, Hongkong, Swatow and return.

M/S "BINTANG"	Due in port	Will leave for Bangkok via Swatow.	20th October
M/S "BANKA"	14th November	Will leave direct for Bangkok.	20th November.

Subject to change without notice.

For further particulars please apply to:-

JOHN MANNERS & CO., LTD.

Agents.

NOTICE TO SHIPPERS AND PASSENGERS. **EXPECTED DEPARTURE** **CHINA COAST, ETC.**

SWATOW.

Oct. 28.-I.O.S.N.	Wing Sang.
30.-O.N.	Chibusa.
31.-O.S.N.	Do-far.
Nov. 1.-D.L.	Haihong.
2.-O.S.K.	Poshu Maru.
3.-I.O.S.N.	Kwongsook.
4.-D.L.	Haihong.
5.-I.O.S.N.	Wing Sang.
7.-I.O.S.N.	Chidlar.

AMOI.

Oct. 28.-B.I.	Egra.
31.-D.L.	Haihong.
Nov. 2.-O.S.K.	Poshu Maru.
3.-D.L.	Kaijo Maru.
	Haihong.

FOOCHOW.

Oct. 31.-D.L.	Haihong.
3.-D.L.	Haihong.

SHANGHAI.

Oct. 28.-I.O.S.N.	Wahioz.
30.-O.N.	Sinking.
31.-O.N.	Chobok.
Nov. 1.-I.O.S.N.	Wing Sang.
2.-N.Y.K.	Tokushima Maru.
3.-T.K.K.	Shinyo Maru.
4.-O.P.S.	Empress of Asia.
5.-I.O.S.N.	Kwongsook.
6.-L.T.	Venzia.
7.-P.M.	President Pierce.
8.-P. & O.	Soudan.
9.-N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru.
10.-E.	City of Paris.
11.-T.K.K.	Shinyo Maru.
12.-O.P.S.	Empress of Canada.
13.-P.M.	Pres. Cleveland.
14.-T.K.K.	Taiyo Maru.
15.-O.M.	Chi.
16.-O.P.S.	Empress of Russia.
17.-N.Y.K.	Iyo Maru.
18.-O.M.	Nio.
19.-T.K.K.	Taiyo Maru.
20.-O.P.S.	Empress of Asia.
21.-T.K.K.	Kota Maru.
22.-O.M.	Winking.
23.-O.P.S.	Empress of Asia.
24.-O.P.S.	Empress of Canada.

TSINGTAO.

Oct. 29.-O.N.	Sinking.
30.-I.O.S.N.	Wing Sang.
Nov. 1.-I.O.S.N.	Kwongsook.
5.-I.O.S.N.	Wing Sang.

WEIHAIWEI.

Oct. 28.-O.N.	Kueichow.
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CHEFOO.

Oct. 28.-O.N.	Kueichow.
30.-O.N.	Pakhoi.

TIENTSIN.

Oct. 28.-O.N.	Kueichow.
Nov. 3.-I.O.S.N.	Chongshing.

NEWCHWANG.

Oct. 28.-I.O.S.N.	Wahioz.
30.-O.N.	Pakhoi.

HOIHOW.

Oct. 28.-O.N.	Kueichow.
30.-O.N.	Chinbus.
Nov. 8.-I.O.S.N.	Chuangang.

KEELUNG.

Nov. 2.-T.K.K.	Shinyo Maru.
3.-O.S.K.	Kaijo Maru.
4.-O.S.K.	Batavia Maru.
5.-T.K.K.	Taiyo Maru.
6.-T.K.K.	Persia Maru.

TAKAO.

Nov. 2.-O.S.K.	Shinyo Maru.
3.-O.S.K.	Batavia Maru.

SAIGON.

Oct. 31.-O.N.	Shansi.
31.-O.N.	Wahioz.
Nov. 3.-O.S.K.	West Chopaka.
10.-T.K.K.	Woyo Maru.

PAKHOL.

Oct. 28.-O.N.	Kueichow.
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HAIPHONG.

Oct. 28.-O.N.	Kueichow.
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HAIPHONG VIA HOIHOW.

Oct. 28.-I.O.S.N.	Ming Sang.
Nov. 3.-I.O.S.N.	Leesang.

BANGKOK.

Oct. 30.-E.A.	Hinlang.
30.-I.O.S.N.	Do-far.
Nov. 1.-O.S.K.	Dugha Maru.
7.-I.O.S.N.	Chidlar.
8.-I.O.S.N.	Chuangang.
20.-E.A.	Baka.

SINGAPORE.

Oct. 28.-B.I.	Tanda.
30.-I.O.S.N.	Vuenang.
30.-N.Y.K.	Yamagata Maru.
31.-O.N.	Chinbus.
31.-P.M.	Van Overstraten.
Nov. 1.-D.L.	Diana Doller.
1.-E.L.	City of Oran.
2.-B.I.	Egra.
3.-B. & L.	West Chopaka.
4.-O.S.K.	Poshu Maru.
4.-P.M.	Oriziz.
	Lake Fielding.

5.-G.L.	Glenapp.
6.-B.F.	Buryados.
7.-B.F.	Kt. of the Garter.
8.-P. & O.	Dongola.
9.-N.Y.K.	Tokushima Maru.
10.-N.Y.K.	Taiyo Maru.
11.-B.F.	Iloa.
12.-B.F.	Dugallion.
13.-B.F.	Gregory Apar.
14.-O.S.K.	Amazon Maru.
15.-E.A.	Asia.
16.-B.F.	Yungtze.
22.-N.Y.K.	Mahina Maru.
22.-E.A.	Panama.
23.-P. & O.	Nankin.
24.-P. & O.	Soudan.
25.-S. & B.	West Faral.
27.-B.F.	Philoteos.
27.-O.L.	Glengarry.
Dec. 1.-B.F.	Domodocus.
3.-E.A.	Malaya.
4.-B.F.	Pyria.
5.-P. & O.	Karmala.
6.-B.F.	Ampanor.
16.-B.F.	Phonius.
20.-B.F.	Meriones.
23.-B.F.	Amelia.
24.-B.F.	Manila.
27.-P. & O.	Kashgar.
31.-B.F.	Glaucus.
31.-B.F.	Rumous.
10.-P. & O.	Assay.
11.-P. & O.	Assay.
21.-P. & O.	Kavlinia.
Feb. 7.-P. & O.	Nellora.
16.-P. & O.	Austral.
21.-P. & O.	Delta.
21.-P. & O.	Railan.
21.-P. & O.	Kaymir.
Apr. 4.-P. & O.	Khyber.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS, ETC.

MANILA.

Oct. 28.-P.M.	President Pierce.
Nov. 1.-E. & A.	Tanar.
3.-U.S.S.B.	West Chopaka.
6.-A.L.	Pres. Madison.
8.-P.M.	Pres. Cleveland.
14.-N.Y.K.	Aki Maru.
20.-T.K.K.	Soyu Maru.
20.-A.L.	Pres. McKinley.
23.-U.S.S.B.	West Faral.
Dec. 4.-A.L.	Pres. Jackson.
10.-N.Y.K.	Tango Maru.
Jan. 19.-T.K.K.	Rakuyo Maru.

CEBU AND ILOILO.

SANDAKAN.

Nov. 10.-I.O.S.N.	Mausang.
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JAYA PORTS, ETC.

Nov. 3.-U.R.S.B.	West Chopaka.
3.-J.C.I.T.	Tijlajap.
9.-I.O.S.N.	Namsang.
11.-J.C.I.T.	Tijlajap.
14.-J.C.I.T.	Tijlajap.
23.-U.S.S.B.	West Faral.
25.-T.K.K.	Woyo Maru.
Dec. 10.-T.K.K.	Woyo Maru.

INDIAN PORTS, ETC.

CALCUTTA.

Oct. 28.-B.I.	Tanda.
30.-N.Y.K.	Yamagata Maru.
Nov. 2.-B.I.	Tanda.
4.-O.S.K.	Lake Fielding.
7.-O.S.K.	Nanking Maru.
9.-I.O.S.N.	Hosang.
14.-B.I.	Gregory Apar.
14.-I.O.S.N.	Footsang.

BOMBAY AND COLOMBO.

Nov. 4.-O.S.K.	Sumatra Maru.
9.-P. & O.	Rongola.
11.-J.C.I.T.	Tijlajap.
11.-I.O.S.N.	Namsang.
11.-J.C.I.T.	Tijlajap.
14.-J.C.I.T.	Tijlajap.
23.-U.S.S.B.	West Faral.
25.-T.K.K.	Woyo Maru.
Dec. 10.-T.K.K.	Woyo Maru.

PORT SAID.

Nov. 16.-N.L.	Westfall.
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AUSTRALIAN PORTS.

SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

Nov. 1.-E. & A.	St. Albans.
14.-N.Y.K.	Aki Maru.
30.-E. & A.	Kashgar.
Dec. 10.-N.Y.K.	Tango Maru.

JAPAN PORTS.

Oct. 28.-B.I.	Tanda.
30.-N.Y.K.	Yamagata Maru.
Nov. 1.-B.F.	Prythos.
1.-Y. & A.	St. Albans.
2.-T.K.K.	Shinyo Maru.
3.-O.P.S.	Empress of Asia.
7.-N.Y.K.	Yamagata Maru.
8.-P.M.	President Pierce.
8.-P. & O.	Pongola.
10.-N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru.
10.-P.M.	City of Paris.
12.-N.Y.K.	Siboria Maru.
14.-B.I.	Gregory Apar.
16.-I.O.S.N.	Kulsang.
16.-O.S.K.	Atlas Maru.
17.-O.P.S.	Empress of Canada.
17.-N.Y.K.	Yamagata Maru.
22.-P.M.	Pres. Cleveland.
26.-T.K.K.	Taiyo Maru.
27.-O.M.	China.
28.-T.K.K.	Woyo Maru.
20.-E. & A.	Eastern.
30.-O.P.S.	Empress of Russia.

(Continued on Page 11.)

NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES **THE BEN LINE STEAMERS, LIMITED.**

From ANTWERP, MIDDLESBRO, LONDON & STRAITS.

The Steamship "BENVENUE"

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 30th inst., will be subject to rent.

All claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before the 6th November or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 30th inst., at 10 a.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO., LTD.

Agents.

Hongkong, October 24, 1922.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES. **AMERICAN & ORIENTAL LINE.**

From NEW YORK.

The Steamship

"COMERIC"

having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns and/or extra hazardous Godowns of Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after 1st November, 1922, will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the steamer must be presented to the Underwriter on or before 8th November, 1922; or they will not be recognized.

All Broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns where they will be examined on the 1st November, 1922, at 9.30 a.m.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

THE BANK LINE, LIMITED.

General Agents.

Hongkong, October 26, 1922.

HONGKONG HEIGHTS.

For the information of visitors the following list of some of the highest points on the Island and Mainland is published:-

ISLAND.	Feet
Signal Station.	1774
Mt. Parker.	1734
Mountain Lodge.	1725
The Eyrie.	1725
Peak Hotel.	1305
Taikoo Sanatorium.	1000
Mt. Davis.	877
Bowen Rd. (Alterbed).	393
MAINLAND.	Feet
Taimoshan.	3124
Kowloon Peak.	1971
Lion Rock.	1645
Shatin Pass.	1000
Custom's Pass.	780
Devil's Peak.	724

Chamberlain's Pain Balm.

There is nothing so good for muscular rheumatism, sprains, lameness, cramps, or the most severe and like injuries as Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It will effect a cure in less time than any other treatment. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

SHIPBUILDERS.

SHIP REPAIRERS.

BOILER MAKERS.

FORGE MASTERS.

OXY-ACETYLENE, AND

ELECTRIC WELDERS.

MECHANICAL, AND

ELECTRICAL

ENGINEERS.

TAIKOO DOCKYARD & ENGINEERING COMPANY

OF HONGKONG, LIMITED.

—DRY DOCK—

Length 787 Feet.

Length on Blocks 750 Feet.

Depth on Centre of

511 (B.W.O.S.T.) 24 ft. 6 ins.

—THREE SLIPWAYS—

Capable of Handling Ships up to 3,000 Tons Displacement.

Electric Crane at Sea Wall, Capable of Lifting 100 Tons at 70 Feet Radius.

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BUDGET DEBATE.

(Continued From Page 5.)

KOWLOON HOSPITAL.

The estimate of \$300,000 was based on the original designs prepared for it. The Government invited representatives of the Medical Profession and the Kowloon Residents' Association to express their views on such designs and, as a result thereof, the Public Works Committee recommended certain alterations and extensions which were adopted. Combined with the decision then arrived at, to further lower the level of the site, this resulted in the increase in the estimate to the \$554,000 alluded to.

REVISED ESTIMATES.

The original estimate of \$21,000 referred to, was prepared prior to the preparation of the detailed plans and was, therefore, to a great extent, only an approximation. That of \$48,000, now included, is based on detailed plans and quantities. The latter, moreover, includes covering over a portion of it which was found to be essential in the light of more precise information.

Owing to the increased cost of building since the original estimate was framed, the lowest tender received for the accommodation required was just below \$35,000. The proposed building will be of the usual standard of Government buildings, designed to cost a minimum in upkeep, but the accommodation provided, though ample, can hardly be described as extravagant. I would point out in this connection, that the rates in the annual building contracts in the New Territories are 110 per cent. in excess of those in Hongkong. The Hon. Colonial Secretary will be able to state by whom the building is to be occupied.

The Shek-O Road is estimated to cost \$492,000; this includes cost of metalling and tar painting.

As to the Peak Motor Road, the contract for that portion of the Peak Motor Road between Magazine Gap and "The Homestead" site was let on the 9th April, 1921, the date for completion set out in the contract being April 4th, 1922. The contractors for the work also obtained the contract for the erection of the houses on the "Homestead" site, under which contract they had to remove a very considerable amount of excavation. As this excavation was required for filling on the section of the road between the "Homestead" site and the Peak Tramway they were awarded the contract for that length also, as an extension of the section just referred to, the date for the expiry of both contracts being extended to the 21st August, 1922. The first section up to the "Homestead" site should be completed by the end of the year. I am, however, unable to state when it will be finished up to the Peak Tramway, the rate of progress depending so much on the progress of excavation at the "Homestead" site. The contractors are under a penalty of \$100 per week, since the date just mentioned, and I am exerting the utmost pressure in endeavouring to expedite the work. Labour troubles and difficulties have undoubtedly been the principal factor in the delay.

For Magazine Gap to Victoria Gap, 1.83 miles, the original contract was \$128,000; the revised estimate is \$260,000.

LIGHTING OF PUBLIC HIGHWAYS.
The increase in the cost of lighting for the City and Hill Districts is due to the new type of burner and mantles being installed. The decrease in the cost of electric lighting for the City and Hill Districts is due to lower rates to be paid under the proposed lighting agreement. The Government has the question of improving the lighting of the City under consideration; and, until the effect of the new burners and mantles now being installed in the gas lamps has been seen, a definite reply can not be given. The Government has had under consideration for some time past, the "Series" system of electric lighting for the City and Kowloon districts.

SUPPLY-CONTRACTOR QUESTION.
In regard to Mr. Bird's suggestion for doing away with the sub-contractors, only lighting, in the case of

carrying out work by a body of men under piece work conditions is a practice which, I am afraid, is never likely to be entirely eradicated in China; if it so happens it will be from action within the men's own ranks—by their own guilds—and not by any pressure which can be brought to bear on the contractors. I am not even certain that it would be wise to attempt to introduce to them a new economy; it would certainly increase the already very high cost of things without any apparent compensating advantage.

FACILITIES FOR BUILDING YARDS.

The Town Planning Committee have recommended to the Government that certain areas shall be set aside for the erection of saw mills, and storage of timber, and other building materials, and further areas will be allotted for his purpose as the work of the Committee proceeds. The only restrictions on any method of construction are those in force in London or any of the larger American cities, and every encouragement is, and will be, given to the adoption of any type of construction which will tend to reduce cost. I understand that a Construction Company has been registered in Hongkong within the last few days, composed of an influential combination of Directors, with the object of erecting buildings of the most modern type of construction, and with the most up-to-date machinery. The advent of such a Company is welcomed, and I trust that the venture will attain such a measure of success as will ensure its up to date methods being adopted on all hands. *Experiments docet.*

REVISION OF BYE-LAWS.

These are being continually modified and are now sufficiently elastic to permit of the erection of all buildings of a sound type of construction.

BORING FOR WATER.

Mr. Bird spoke of boring for water. It is very unlikely that any appreciable quantity of water is likely to be obtained on the Island from borings. Its configuration and the nature of formation preclude this possibility. Moreover in all the extensive cuttings and excavations which have been made—some to a depth of 100 feet—no sign of springs of any volume has been noticed or reported.

On the mainland there are certain valleys—where accretions of sand deposited by erosion exist—where it is possible that water might be obtained, but, in view of the fact that the proposed supply schemes will afford much more economically, an adequate supply for all purposes, it appears hardly necessary to extend any considerable sum in boring. It, however, it is found that borings can be put down at an inconsiderable cost, it might be worth doing so, say at Apichau, which at present has no sufficient supply and can only be supplied by laying a main across the channel.

PUBLIC LIGHTING AT KOWLOON.

With regard to the lighting of public highways at Kowloon to which the Hon. Mr. Lang referred, this is a clerical error the amount for gas lighting at Kowloon should read \$1,600 not \$17,600, as printed in the 1923 estimates.

KOWLOON MATTERS.

A recommendation that electric light, in lieu of the present gas lighting, be installed to this pier is being forwarded to the Government.

With reference to latrines at Kowloon Point, south of Jordan Road, in addition to the public convenience at the richia shelter near the Kowloon Ferry, there are two other public latrines south of Jordan Road—one in Canton Road, opposite Navy Street; and the other opened recently in Shanghai Street, opposite Bowring Street. There are also two large latrines on private property—one on the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co.'s premises and the other at Messrs. Holt's Godown.

The Town Planning Committee are considering a recommendation for public latrines near the junction of Haiphong and Nathan Roads, and the junction of Canton and Jordan Roads.

OLD WELLS.

With regard to the remarks of the Hon. Mr. Chow Shou-son with respect to wells, an effort was made to find the position of some of these old wells

that have been so much referred to. We exhausted the plans of the Sanitary Board, after that, all those of the P.W.D., with no result. Mr. Chow offered to interview his Chinese friends and ascertain if they knew the position of the old wells. If so, it was promised that they should be examined to see what could be done with them. I am still waiting for that information from Mr. Chow.

KOWLOON HOSPITAL.

As to the tender for the hospital in Kowloon, I regret that it has been rather delayed, but it has been partly because the Committee of Inspection, that went into it very thoroughly, revised the plan very considerably. Also, after a comprehensive survey of the levelling in Kowloon, it was decided to lower the site.

Lengthening the pier at Cheung Chau will be gone into. As to the short cut to Repulse Bay, work is proceeding at the pier end and will be continued.

APPRECIATION AND EXPLANATION.

May I now take the opportunity to thank Your Excellency for the gracious reference to myself in your speech on the first reading of this Bill? I sincerely appreciate them and am grateful for the consideration shown me. I am, however, fully conscious of the fact that, while I may to some extent accept them personally, they are none the less, I feel sure, an appreciation of the work of the Staff of all grades of my Department, and I accept them on their behalf as a fitting recognition of their services.

Whilst doing so, I wish also to express to you, Sir, and to the Honourable Council, my own appreciation of the loyal co-operation I have had from the whole of the Staff—Engineers, Surveyors, Secretaries, Clerks, Clerks of Works, Overseers, and Clerks. It has been a great source of regret to me to see the long hours of overtime which have had to be worked by some of the last named officers, day in day out, throughout the year, owing to the lack of accommodation, which has rendered it impossible to increase their ranks.

I would like to add just one word in this connection, with respect to the remarks of the Hon. Mr. Parr, about the amount of detail handled by the Director of Public Works. It is not for me to speak on the issue raised by him but I desire it to be understood that, if this Council approves the Estimates as they now stand, the various items coming within the province of the Public Works Department will be carried out in toto by the Executive Engineers who alone are responsible for them from their inception and who, upon the schemes being finally approved, are further responsible for all the details connected therewith and for carrying them out to completion. And I do not think, Sir, that any of these engineers will be found asking for more work at present. What I wish to clear up is that any detail I handle is certainly not in the way of doing any of the work of the other officers. The executive engineers are exceptionally keen and capable men and the amount of department work they have to do is sufficient to occupy their whole time. The Water and Harbour Departments of this Colony are big jobs in themselves, and jobs that affect the work of the Director of Public Works. It is not the big works that give the trouble; they are carried out by engineers. It is the hundred and one jobs that are no one else's job that come round to the Director of Public Works.

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS.

DIRECTOR ANSWERS CRITICS.

The Director of Education said:—The criticism of the senior unofficial member as to the teaching of shorthand is a small matter which can very easily be answered. Shorthand is a subject which requires to be studied intensively. It is no good learning it for an hour a week. I have no doubt that if the school authorities, with the advice of the Inspector of English Schools and the Board of Education, agree that shorthand should be taught the Government will very quickly supply a teacher. My private opinion, expressed perhaps hastily, is that the general education of the boys is more important than the teaching of shorthand, and that they would be better employed in getting on with the ordinary school subjects like English and mathematics and French than in any specialisation. When they leave school they can learn all the shorthand they want, if they stick to it, in six months.

OUR NATIONAL SCHOOLS.

The senior unofficial member asked that more should be done for the small British school children in the Colony. That more should be done is my earnest desire. At the same time I should like to point out that much has been done. Twenty years ago the first British school, the Kowloon school, was started here, and I said at the time and I have never heard it challenged, that it was the first school of its kind in the British Empire exclusively for British children. And since then there have

been established three similar schools—the Victoria school, the Peak School and the Kowloon junior overflow school—altogether an enrolment of about 250 children. They have a very strong staff on the whole consisting of twelve fully trained teachers, two excellent teachers of our own training, who were, I may add, in their time pupils of the Kowloon school, and five untrained teachers. As to the employment of untrained teachers they were engaged immediately after the war, at a time when it meant either closing the schools altogether or conducting them with any teachers we could get. They have now had training as teachers for periods of anything between five and two years and I myself am very well satisfied with the work they are doing. I said that the Kowloon school is not sufficient to receive the pressure on the Kowloon school to which extra classrooms are being added and it is hoped to increase the accommodation of the Peak School also as soon as possible. So much has been done for British children here and I do not think as much has been done in any Colony of this size in any other part of the Empire. After all the British children are not the only care of the Director of Education.

THE SPECIALIST QUESTION.
It is a very delicate matter for me to answer the criticisms of my friend on the left but I would point out that my successor when chosen will be chosen also from amongst those who have had at least eight or ten years' experience of Chinese child psychology and knowledge of the Cantonese language. It must be remembered that of the 35,000 children who come under the control of this Department 250 are British children and the rest—a very, very great majority of the rest—are Chinese and of these more than 20,000 have education in the Chinese language. They are looked after by four Chinese inspectors who might of course be specialists because they have special knowledge of the Chinese language and the Chinese people. The Director of Education has to control that department as well as others. That sub-department is a department which deals with 400 vernacular schools and will expend next year \$80,000; and it will be seen that it is a serious responsibility and one which requires special staff to look after it.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.

ON MANY MATTERS.

The Colonial Secretary said: Sir, I will speak first on the subject of smuggling which was approached from two different aspects, by the senior unofficial member and the senior representative of the Chinese. The senior unofficial member said, I think, that it was not fair to make ships' officers responsible where the police fail and that, provided all reasonable precautions were taken, shipping companies should not be prosecuted. I am afraid, Sir, that it is the experience of this Government that ships' officers do smuggle and that they do receive money for keeping their eyes shut to what is going on. Cases do occur in which a large hole is cut in a deck or engine room bulkhead, or the paneling is removed bodily from the saloons in which cases either there is gross neglect of duty or there must be some connivance by the responsible officer. The Government, however, has as a matter of fact gone further than that the hon. member asks and made it a rule that prosecutions are not to be instituted against ships and shipping companies unless it is possible to prove negligence or connivance on the part of the ships' officers. I think, Sir, that shipping companies, perhaps, might do a little more than at present in the way of stricter disciplinary measures.

The senior representative of the Chinese took the other aspect—the danger to the community in connection with the smuggling of arms and ammunition. The Government is fully alive to the importance of this question but it is, I say, on the one hand by this insistent demand on the part of the shipping companies for less rigorous measures against their ships, and on the other by similarly insistent demands frequently made in this chamber and elsewhere on the part of the Chinese representatives that less rigorous measures should be enforced as regards the search of property, persons and houses. The suggestion to increase the police and the revenue forces is by no means a complete answer to this question. As hon. members are aware the finding of contraband is mainly a matter of information and to increase the number of searchers is useless unless you have liberty to pull the ship or houses to pieces. The other alternative to increase the rewards paid for information leads of course to additional corruption and bribery which is the inevitable concomitant of such a system. I think, Sir, that it would not increase the

that it is difficult to find a remedial measure, except that I would suggest that Chinese public opinion should more strongly support the efforts of the Government in this matter.

WIRELESS SIGNALS.

The second point raised by the senior unofficial member was the question of position finders. He will be glad to learn that an expert from the Marconi Company is now installing a finder and it should be ready in the course of next month. It will have a radius of 80 miles from the Colony. Regarding transit instruments for finding signals, the time signals are at present carried out under a system arranged by the Director for the use of the Observatory plant through Stone cutters' wireless station. This transit instrument is merely a mechanical method by which a system of signals will be sent under the international code. The absence of this system would not have affected the "Gondia" and the other vessels. I may say that the storm warnings are transmitted through the Observatory from Cape D'Aguilar and the Observatory was in touch with the "Gondia" up to the time that she was 100 miles from the centre of the typhoon.

OUR OBSERVATORY.

The hon. member also suggested the advisability of periodical visits by the Director to neighbouring ports. I understand, he did visit various ports last year—I think Shanghai, Japan and Manila—and Government has fully endorsed the policy of maintaining constant touch with neighbouring Observatories. The hon. member representing the Chamber of Commerce referred generally to the question of the Observatory and stated that the Chamber of Commerce had recently addressed the Government on the subject. I may say I only received that communication yesterday. I have not had time to deal with it in any way. The Government is fully alive to the necessity of keeping the Observatory efficient and up to date and will give its very sympathetic consideration to the proposals that have been made.

POLICE PAY.

The next point touched upon was that of the police. It was asked whether the Government was satisfied that the police to the best of their ability assist the Captain Superintendent of Police and whether they are adequately remunerated so as not to fail in their duty. I consider, Sir, that under its able and efficient officers our police force maintains a standard of zeal and efficiency second to none, and, as regards its present conditions of service—in pay, leave and pension—these, I venture to think compare favourably with those of any other police force in any other part of the world. The hon. member mentioned questions of quarters and living conditions. These matters were very carefully enquired into in 1920 when a revision of salaries was taking place and the Government made certain concessions. I think that there is a tendency, on the part of post-war recruits in all parts of the service to expect rather more of the community than the community is prepared to give them. The hon. member went on to refer to the language allowance. There I think are adequate. The importance of the question is realised and is emphasised in a police order which makes the learning of Chinese compulsory upon European and debar a man from promotion unless he passes certain examinations. The importance of Chinese learning English is perhaps not quite in the same category. The question of hours of police has been largely answered, I think, by two fast patrol launches. With regard to the European strength, as His Excellency pointed out in his opening speech, it is a matter which requires careful consideration. It involves large expense, not only in salary but also in housing accommodation which cannot be provided in a day and the Government think it advisable to hasten slowly.

SHORTHAND IN SCHOOLS.

Shortland was mentioned that has already been dealt with by the Director of Education but a point struck me when the senior unofficial member spoke of the great prospects which were going to open up in Hongkong for shorthand writers. Quite recently a case came to the notice of the Government of three persons who came here from Australia with the idea that enormous fortunes were to be made by shorthand writers here and we had to send them all back at the Government expense. I think a word of warning is, therefore, necessary.

BUILDING COSTS.

With regard to the cost of building, the Director of Public Works suggested that I should speak of the present policy. It is rather a difficult one. The senior unofficial member pointed to the fact that the Government had recently found it advisable to curtail this building programme with respect to two houses which it is going to erect and he has drawn the moral out of such a system. I think, Sir, that it would not increase the

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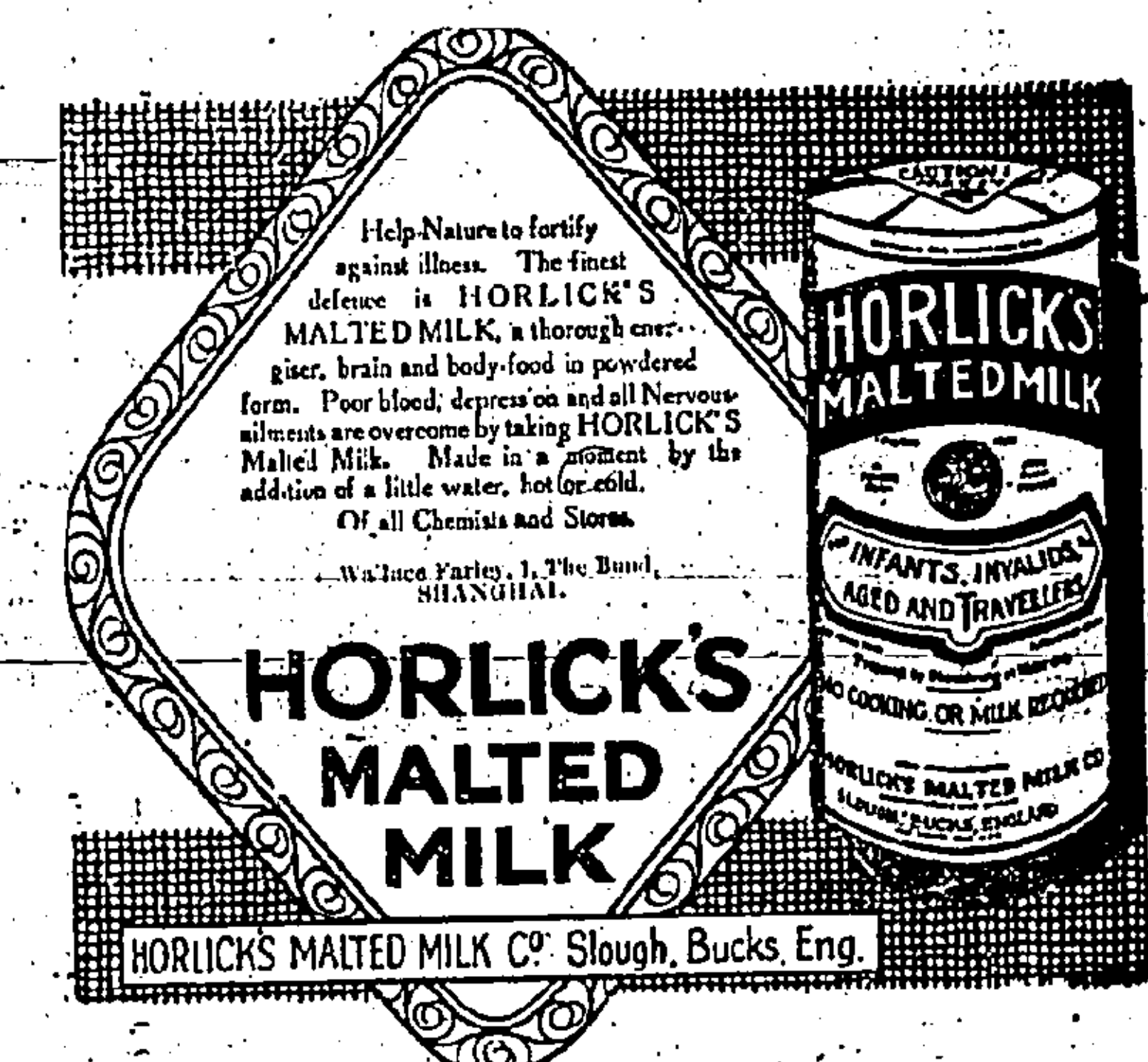
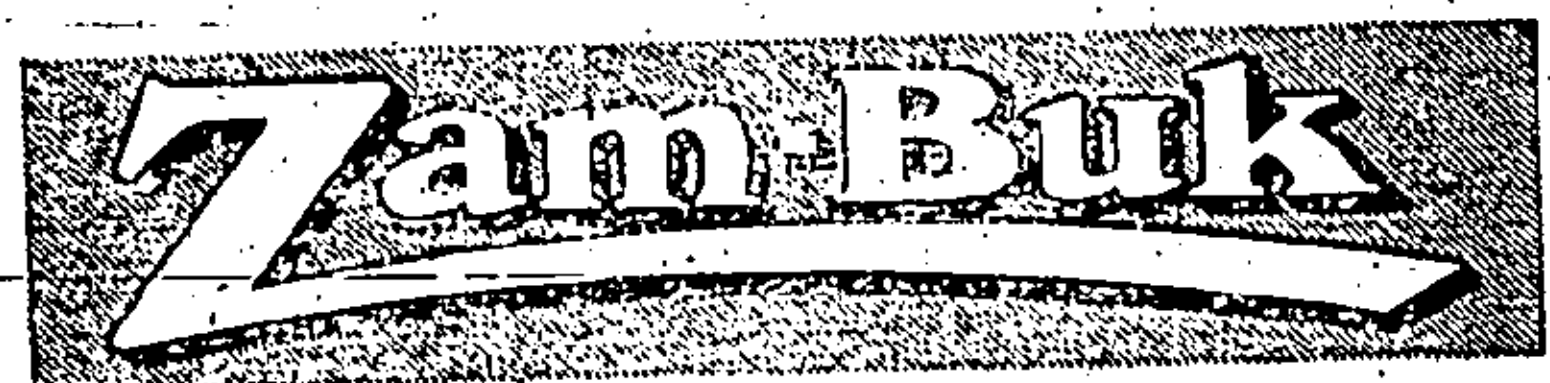
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housing accommodation. Of course quarters or a housing allowance; we cannot have it both ways. The Government was on the horns of a dilemma and proposes not to burden further by its demands a supply already inadequate. Where a very large number of persons all want the same thing and there is not much of it the economic laws will have their way and the applicants pay a high competitive price or go without. I think that the Government could no more control this than for example in the case which not infrequently happens where a rumour that the Government is going to take over the Dock Companies or the wharves sends the shares jumping up 20 points.

LABOUR PROBLEMS.

On the other aspect of the question, labour restrictions labour unrest and guild regulation are in quite a different category. This very important question has been having most serious consideration by the Government and I think three hon. members advised legislation. The Government will gladly consider any constructive suggestions of this nature. One is apt, perhaps, to over estimate the efficacy of restrictive measures. Legislation is not a panacea for all the ills of the body politic and to solve the problem I would look rather to education, the improvement of the housing of the very poor and of their living conditions and would give them all a better stake and an interest in the Colony.

The question of bricks has been dealt with by the Director of Public Works. I would simply add that the Government takes a great interest in this. It is in communication with certain members of the mercantile community and samples of clay have been sent Home for analysis.

HOUSING ALLOWANCES.

The senior unofficial member referred to housing allowances and suggested that they be extended to bachelors. Now that this question has been raised I think that an explanation may clear the air. The subordinate servants do receive either

(Continued on Page 9.)

BUDGET DEBATE.

(Continued from Page 8.)

of course, on which it is impossible to dogmatise but I have noticed that the universities and other leading educational institutions, especially in America, do tend to appoint to the leading posts men of affairs rather than men whose whole time has been spent in scholastic work.

NEW TERRITORY BUILDING.
The next subject was the Government's policy as regards the building of houses in the European districts in the New Territory. It is a matter which has been receiving very careful attention and it is before the Town Planning Committee. For some years past speculators have been buying up land, the most attractive parts of the most attractive sites in the Territories, under the impression, apparently, that they can allow agricultural land to lie fallow and that they can convert it into building land at will. It cannot be too widely known that this is not the case. The conversion of the ordinary cottage of the New Territory native is allowed as a matter of course but in spite of that the lease, in every case, provides that conversion is not permitted except under a special license from the Government and that although this is readily granted in many cases it is subject to conditions. The Government does not admit the claim made that a man can convert the house and have the land around his house in the nature of waste at a nominal rent. He is required to take up the complete lot on the ordinary lines as in Hongkong. It is sold as a whole and not divided into house of garden. The Government is laying out areas for building. It has already finished on the hill at the cross roads at Fanling. It is not the intention to hinder building but it is desired to discourage the speculation and to prevent the erection on some of the best sites in the Colony of what a district officer recently described as "glorified bathing sheds." Those were to be put at Castle Peak.

LAUNCH MEN'S WAGES.
The hon. member referred to a misunderstanding as to the question of wages of launchmen. I think I can explain. His Excellency referred to the fact that the wages of Government launch crews were raised in line with the wages arrived at on the strike settlement. That apparently contradicts the statement of the Harbour Master during the strike that owners are advised to advance to the wages of Government launch crews. As a matter of fact, the settlement came out very near but slightly better than the wages paid by the Government and the Government have made these slight readjustments. But in doing so they have done away with certain allowances, as was explained, and the difference is quite insignificant.

MATTERS CHINESE.
The senior Chinese member referred to the question of education in connection with child labour. The Government proposes to offer financial support to any approved scheme which may be put forward by Chinese charitable or educational societies, or by large employers of Chinese labour. The question of wells has been very carefully considered. As the Director of Public Works pointed out, the Government is not disposed to fly in the face of its expert advisers and although it fully realised that in China wells are used and also in the New Territory, all the same, it is not disposed at present and sees no reason for allowing it. He referred next to the question of cultivation in the New Territories. This Government entirely endorses his suggestion that the cultivation of vegetables and rice and the establishment of poultry farms should be encouraged. The scheme that was begun and fostered by the late Mr. Lau Chiu-pak has very recently come to fruition and the promoters will no doubt make a commencement immediately. I may say that any other persons who bring forward suitable schemes of this kind will receive most favourable returns.

The hon. member who represents the justices gave a somewhat intricate figure regarding the Government accounts and I notice that the Treasurer has not replied. I do not propose to rush in where he fears to tread. The question of policy I understand, will be dealt with by His Excellency.

CHEUNG CHAU.
He and the hon. Mr. Bird have spoken of the Cheung Chau settlement. The question of extra police has been very carefully considered indeed and the Captain Superintendent advises, with full responsibility, that two Europeans are not necessary. They have nothing to do, the patrol launch passes twice daily and the Government is satisfied that there is not an adequate reason for having this additional assistance. It is proposed to post two more Indian constables. It is possible that later more police will be required

on the Island of Ping Chau, which requires just as much policing, from the Government's point of view, as Cheung Chau. The other question was that of roads and general improvements. These are under consideration and the Government is to approach the community as to whether they are prepared to pay the ordinary rates which are part of the obligation for improvements. The refuse question I sympathise with. It has not been before the Government as far as I know. It will certainly be referred to the head of the Sanitary Department. As to the ferry I think the community there are under the obligation of the Island who run and are responsible for the ferry. They are much too apt to grumble in view of the service that is provided. The Government has under consideration the whole ferry policy and the question of the pier. This is now before the Town Planning Committee and this ferry will receive due consideration.

The hon. member, Mr. Bird, has referred to the question of boring for water. The Director has dealt with it; but I may add that a geological survey is going to be made of the whole of the Island and the Territories, beginning about September next and this question will be specially referred to them for consideration.

PRIVATE PEAK GARAGES.
With regard to the question of private garages on Crown land at the Peak it must be remembered that sites adjacent to and accessible from the new motor road are very few and far between and there are scores of houses some distance from the road. It is thought not to be fair to allow one or two people on the road to take the sites and let the other people go begging. It was after consulting the Automobile Association that it was decided it was more equitable to provide private, not public, garages at central points, in which 12 or 20 cars can be accommodated in separate lock-up places where the owner can have ready access to them; and it is not reasonable that one or two should be allowed to monopolize the available sites. With reference to what was said as to walking home in the rain after garaging the car, that applies to anybody who does not live on a motor road.

I think, Sir, these are also the points to which I refer. I would like, in conclusion, to express my great obligations to all my unofficial colleagues for their very ready assistance and advice in all matters relating to the public welfare.

HIS EXCELLENCY.

THE "MINOR VICES."

MILITARY LANDS POSITION.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government: The Colonial Secretary, the Director of Public Works and the Director of Education have referred to most of the debates but I would like to thank Honourable Members for their very kind reception of the Budget which has been drawn up to provide as far as we possibly can for the requirements of the Colony and having in view the very prosperous condition of our finances, we felt that, as I said in my address, we should be prepared to draw heavily upon our balances if it was required. As I also anticipated it may not be necessary to do so to any extent. In connection with the financial side the Honourable Member who represents the Justices of the Peace has produced a very vast mass of figures which I hardly at a moment's notice, felt prepared to deal with. But I took some of his points and I would like to refer shortly to them and I would like to deal with them now on fairly broad lines because I think he is under a misapprehension in regard to certain matters. In the first place at the beginning of his speech he dealt with the balances of the Colony at the end of the year 1921, the anticipated credit balances at the end of the current year and then he added "a still larger credit at the end of 1923." I do not think anything I said could have led him to imagine there would be a still larger credit balance at the end of 1923 than at the end of 1922. I did say that I thought it was possible that if our revenue maintained itself in the same satisfactory way as it has in the difficult times of the last few years that our balance would not be reduced by such a large sum as we have estimated for. But that is a very different thing from saying that our credit balance will be larger at the end of 1923 than at the end of the current year.

TOBACCO AND LIQUOR DUTIES.
He went on the say that it was therefore proof that the tobacco and spirit duties need not have been increased. There I entirely disagree with him. I think it is essential in this Colony, where we produce nothing that in order to conduct our financial arrangements

year by year we should have a very large credit balance and that credit balance in view of our present requirements should not be less than ten million dollars. These duties on tobacco and spirits are duties which only affect those who indulge in the use of tobacco and liquor or what a well known man once described as "the minor vices" and I do not see why people who indulge in minor vices should not adequately pay for doing so. Some people deplore the fact that revenue from the tobacco, wine and spirit duties is so much but I do not think, considering the size of the community and the climate and other things, that these duties are very much. I fail to see why we should not increase the duties to a figure which can be easily paid by those who indulge to a moderate extent in wine, liquor and tobacco. Therefore I maintain they are a perfectly legitimate increase and we have to look to them to build up a revenue which we consider will be more or less of a permanent nature. It is just the same as any public company in building up these balances. It is what a company would call the "equalisation of dividend fund." We may some years have a deficit we cannot meet and we take it out of the balance; other years we have credit balances and we replace it. Every public company does that and I do not think the Government can do otherwise. I would like to say in connection with the liquor duties that the Government will consider the point raised by the Honourable Member representing the Chamber of Commerce with regard to light wines. It is possible that the duty there may be rather heavy— heavier than is necessary—and that will be taken into consideration.

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS.
The Honourable Member went on to talk about balanced accounts. The accounts are not balanced at all. It is impossible to publish actual statements of revenue and expenditure of a particular month until the Crown Agent's account is received from England. We can always give the Honourable Member a rough statement at any time after the end of the month but it is of no interest to him to know what the revenue and expenditure for the month has been until the Crown Agent's account is received. Then he spoke of assets and liabilities not being stated in full and referred to the value of our roads, buildings and waterworks and what not. Our accounts are purely cash accounts and we cannot sell a viaduct carrying water. It is purely liquid assets we deal with and purely a cash account from day to day and year to year. That is the only way we can work. If we had to have loans on works which were remunerative we should have to show whether they were justifying the expenditure so far as the profit was concerned.

Licenses have been referred to as yielding a large portion of our revenue. That is perfectly true. We have only them to depend upon, except some undertakings of the Government some of which are profitable and others not. I hope there will be more profitable in the future than there has been in the past; the post office is certainly more profitable and the railway is also profitable. What we do try to do is to build up a permanent source of revenue, such revenue as assessments and, as referred to just now, spirits and tobacco. There is no question of over-taxing here. It is stated, and I think everyone agrees that we are very lightly taxed. The sinking funds are both in a healthy condition. We cannot pay off the \$3,000,000 loan owing to a legal difficulty. We have money to do it, but I believe we cannot pay it off. Of course we might buy up the stock but it really does not matter.

REORGANISING THE P.W.D.
As regards the reorganization of the Public Works Department advocated by the senior unofficial member there is no doubt that that would be a very proper thing to do. It is a question which will come under the consideration of the Government. It has already been spoken of and I am sure something of the kind will be necessary. If we have the harbour developments anticipated, it will certainly be necessary to keep that as a separate department and it will possibly be necessary to keep the water department as a separate department. It is not a very easy subject to tackle, but it is one, I think, which will have to be faced very soon.

MILITARY LANDS.
I would like now to speak on the subject of military lands to which reference has been made by more than one Honourable Member. The Government and the military authorities got together and I want to express the gratitude of the Government to the General Officer Commanding and those of his officers who took part in the proceedings, including the Chief Engineer, on the great help they rendered in the matter. Entire agree-

PEAK PLAYGROUNDS.
The playgrounds at the Peak are now under consideration. It is considered better instead of having one large playground to have smaller areas where children can play without going very far from their homes.

TOWN PLANNING COMMITTEE.
Before I close, I would like to refer again to the question of town planning. I made brief reference in my address on the first reading to the work of the Town Planning Committee and I

ment was reached: a scheme was drawn up. That scheme was long ago sent to England and we are now awaiting the answer. We cannot proceed any further until the scheme has been approved. It was most gratifying to us that an agreement was reached and I am sure that if the scheme is approved and put into force the Colony will benefit immensely from it. I will say in that connection that consequent on the work to be done under the scheme Garden Road, referred to by the senior unofficial member, would be closed to wheeled traffic probably and so it is unnecessary to go into any widening of it. I join with the Honourable Member in rejoicing that no accidents have taken place and I hope that condition will continue until some means of access to the higher levels has been devised.

CITY HALL "NOT SO BAD."
As regards the City Hall I cannot agree with the Honourable Member in my right that it should be made a sort of compendium of offices, restaurant, and public reception rooms as he proposes. I strongly object to working in offices with a theatre on one side and public rooms on the other. I do not think it is advisable. In any case it would be a very high building. When we have this military land and the Government is in it proper lay-out of them no doubt these public institutions will be properly provided for. The City Hall is not so bad as it is made out to be. The Museum is deplorable. I think that we are very lucky to have a City Hall and assembly rooms in a central position. No doubt great improvements will be made when we are in a position to do so.

BATHING BEACHES.
Regarding bathing beaches I have seen it stated in the papers that the Government has said that there can be no more room for bathing beaches in Hongkong. That is quite wrong. The Government appointed a committee, of which I am a member, and that committee reported and recommended the formation of a bathing beach near the electric light reclamation, next to the Yacht Club. That beach was made and I must congratulate the Public Works Department on the great success they made of it. A large number of people made use of it during the past summer. It is impossible to create a sandy beach where there was none before but the idea is to make a beach there by putting down sand which we hope will stay there and to place a boom across to keep away oil and other floating things. It is really a very large bath with a sandy beach and there is accommodation there for a very large number of bathers. It is the most we can do in that part of the Colony; it is on the "rambles" and I hope as the years go by it will be more and more used and become better as more work is done upon it. It is not intended to reclaim that part, but to keep it as a public bathing beach. The Government does that at considerable sacrifice of money but it will be a very valuable asset. Any extension of the electric light works will be made elsewhere so as not to interfere with the beach. Then the beach at Kennedy Town may have to be moved but it is possible that some form of bathing will take place there in the future. As regards Kowloon there is a proposal under consideration to form a bathing beach on the East side of the railway reclamation. It is not a very suitable place and I do not think the promoters have realised all the difficulties and the expense involved. It is quite possible that what ever is put there will be destroyed once every summer by typhoons or severe storms. But still the Government, I hope, will be able to provide something which will afford bathing facilities for the people of Kowloon. I have always been much interested in the subject of bathing for people who are not able to get away from town to any distant point and I am certainly not going to let the matter drop.

POLICE COMPENSATION.
The senior Chinese member referred to the payment of compensation to families of police officers and detectives on duty. It is a subject which is under the consideration of the Government now and all Honourable Members of the Council can rest assured that where men risk their lives and are killed in the performance of their duties the Government recognise that their families should not suffer by their death.

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Before I close, I would like to refer again to the question of town planning. I made brief reference in my address on the first reading to the work of the Town Planning Committee and I

BILL PASSED.
The second reading having been carried unanimously the Bill was passed through all stages. The Council then adjourned sine die.

YACHTING.

OPENING CRUISE.

TO-MORROW'S PROGRAMME.

The opening cruise of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club will be held to-morrow afternoon. The first two races will start at Murray Pier line. The courses will be: Course "A," Channel Rock (S), finish Club House line (E to W), distance 5 miles; Course "B," Club House line (W to E), distance 2 miles.

The programme of races will be as follows:—English Rig, eleven entries; Chinese Rig (Class C), five entries; Racing Yachts (Ladies' Races—Class H), nine entries; (Course: Start Club House line (W to E) Kowloon Rock (S), Channel Rock (S), finish Club House line (E to W). Distance 4 miles); Gull Class G, seven entries (team course); and Rowing 4 oars (scratch crews). The presentation of prizes will take place about 5.30 p.m. A Band will be in attendance and tea will be served on the lawn from 3 p.m. onward.

"EAST LYNNE"

AT THE CORONET.

On the road of progress along which the motion picture art is steadily travelling another milestone has been marked off by the film version of "East Lynne" which is attracting big "houses" at the Coronet. The producer took a big risk in reproducing Mrs. Henry Wood's sixty-year-old novel in a modern setting, because few books written in the English tongue have been more widely read or longer remembered. The enthusiastic reception the picture is getting, seems to demonstrate that they were right in their decision to present it as a world-class story. Nothing of the great emotional appeal of the sweet and simple story has been lost and the characters appear just as one remembers them to have been in the book.

ANOTHER JEWEL THIEF.

The Tung Sing Jewellers shop of No. 270, Queen's Road Central is the latest victim of the ingenious fraud which seems to be at present the favourite trick of a certain type of thief that has lately made its appearance in Hongkong. According to a salesman, a well dressed Chinese visited the shop yesterday afternoon and asked to see some gold watch chains. He was shown a card containing five or six chains. After inspecting them the man departed without making any purchase. When the man had gone the shop folk discovered that one of the chains worth \$80 was gone. He ran out after the visitor, but he was nowhere to be found.

think that Honourable members who go about the Colony, especially in Kowloon, and see what has been done, will realise what a very valuable work it is. The names of the members of the Town Planning Committee were given by me in my address, but I want especially to mention certain members of the Public Works Department who, in addition to all their other work, have given a great deal of time in getting out plans and investigating matters for the Town Planning Committee so that their work might be carried out to the greatest advantage. The first is Mr. Jackman, who is Assistant Director of Public Works in charge of all works on the Kowloon side. The second is Mr. John Duncan, Executive Engineer in charge of Harbour Works and the third is Mr. Parker Ross, Principal Land Surveyor. They have been working for months in connection with the Town Planning Committee. Others have also been doing work which is much appreciated by the members of the Committee. They are Mr. Wilson and Mr. Rout, engineers, and Mr. West, surveyor. I hope the work of this Committee is going to facilitate the work of the Public Works Department in the future and it is so closely involved with the future development of the Colony and its prosperity that I wish to make special reference to it again. I am much obliged to Honourable Members for their most helpful speeches and I will conclude by putting the question.

BILL PASSED.

The second reading having been carried unanimously the Bill was passed through all stages. The Council then adjourned sine die.

TO-DAY'S CABLES.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

MA K INVOLVEDS FRANCE.

FRENCH ALARM.

BRITAIN'S HELP AWAITED.

LONDON, Oct. 26.

French francs have depreciated to 6.470. General selling is due to the recent collapse of marks, also to French finances. Belgian currency is 6.970. Marks are steady at 19.000.

The fall in the franc is alarming Paris where the sudden visit of the Reparation Commission to Berlin is regarded as a foreboding omen and the view is beginning to find expression that the British Government will devise a plan for saving Germany and freeing France from her entanglement in Germany's downfall.

That the reparations discussions will be transferred permanently to Berlin, which is the British view, appears likely from a statement made in Berlin that the German Government has invited a number of foreign financial experts to visit Berlin to discuss measures for stabilisation of the mark, including Professor J. M. Keynes (Britain), Professor Cassel (Sweden), Professor Visserin and Ter nouten (Holland), Professor Jenks (New York) and M. Toller, of the American Guaranty Trust Company.

STRANDING OF THE "RALEIGH"

NAVIGATING OFFICER DISMISSED.

COURT'S SEVERE REPRIMAND.

LONDON, October 26.

The finding of the court martial at Portsmouth into the stranding of the flagship "Raleigh" on the coast of Labrador on August 8 states that the Navigating Officer, Commander Leslie Butt should be dismissed from the ship and severely reprimanded.

The court held that the discrepancy in the charts urged by the defence was not a contributory cause of the stranding.

RUBBER RESTRICTION.

HELPING WEAKER STATES.

LONDON, October 26.

A letter to the Times with regard to the rubber restriction scheme by Mr. Perkins, who is a member of the Malayan rubber commission, emphasises the necessity of financially assisting the weaker states during the period of limitation. He hopes the governments concerned will recognise their obligations in this connection.

MORE INTIMIDATION?

SMALL BOY'S STORY.

A Chinese was charged before Mr. R. B. Findell this morning with having demanded \$20 from a small boy, by menaces. It was alleged that the defendant got into conversation with the boy at the Eastern Cinema Theatre and suggested he should join a certain society. The entrance fee, the defendant said, was \$20. When the boy said he did not have so much money defendant suggested he could pay in instalments of \$5. The boy informed Sub-Inspector Shaftain who gave him a marked \$5 note. This was given to defendant outside the post office yesterday. The boy afterwards followed him to the Central Market where defendant was given in charge to a Chinese constable. Defendant was alleged to have dropped this marked note which was recovered. He was remanded.

OUR NAVAL VISITORS.

ENTERTAINMENTS ARRANGED.

A party of warrant officers of the U.S. Asiatic Fleet at present in port, held an enjoyable picnic at Stonecutters yesterday afternoon. In the evening they were entertained to dinner on board H.M.S. "Ambrose" and H.M.S. "Tamar." To-day they will motor round the Island, and in the evening will be the guests of the Warrant Officers' Club at dinner. U.S.S. "Hart" and "Rial" will arrive in port to-morrow morning and later in the day the "Rainbow" and "tenshinmaru," the minesweeper "Bittern," the "Black Hawk," and seven destroyers, will leave Hongkong. Commodore Grace, R.N., will give a dinner on board the "Tamar" in honour of Admiral Anderson to-morrow evening. On Monday 600 American sailors will have a "tiffin" with 100 British sailors at the City Hall and later the party will attend a cinema show at the World Theatre. In the evening, Admiral Anderson and the officers of the "Huron" will be the guests at a dinner to be given at the Hongkong Hotel and later will attend a dance at Government House.

The Sz-chuen Provincial Assembly has sent a telegram to Canton stating that the people of Sz-chuen are in favour of the autonomy of provinces in China.

NORTH CHINA STRIKE.

TANGSHAN POSITION IMPROVES.

PEKING, October 27.
The strike situation at Tangshan is reported to have improved. The local authorities are taking steps to prevent riots and to guarantee essential services at the mines. The Peking Mukden Railway has issued a circular promising those of its striking employees returning to work exemption from punishment and warning that agitators will be severely dealt with.—Reuter.

SITUATION WELL IN HAND.

Messrs. Dowdell and Co., agents for the Kaifan Mining Administration received this morning the following telegram from the General Manager of the Administration, despatched from Tientsin at 7.30 p.m. yesterday:—"Under the influence of outside agitation the workmen at Tangshan, Linsui, and Chaochowang Collieries and at Chingwangtao struck work on the 23rd inst. The workmen at Machiao Colliery remain loyal. An adequate force of Police is guarding the mines. The Police and strikers are in collision but the situation is well in hand."

PEKING SENATE.

SPEAKER'S ELECTION ENDS IN RIOT.

PEKING, October 22.
The Senate has again failed to elect a Speaker as a result of a disturbance created by a group of senators who charged both candidates with bribery and urged postponement of the ballot. An angry scene ensued in which the ballot box was overturned and the ballot papers scattered. The meeting broke up in disorder.—Reuter.

FUKIEN FORCES.

LATEST MILITARY APPOINTMENTS.

PEKING, October 27.
A mandate last night appointed General Li Hon-ohi commander-in-chief and Admiral Sah Chen-ping vice-commander-in-chief of naval and military forces in Fukien, also General Kao Chun-chung commander-in-chief of the Fukien troops for the suppression of "Miao" and other rebels.—Reuter.



Harry Poulis

Concerned in an interesting
Paternity problem.



Miss Phyllis S. Horle

A South African girl barred from
entering U.S.A. because the immigrat-
ion people said there were enough
South Africans there already.



Leo Williams

Invented new miner's electric lamp.



Looks well in the kilt.



Japan's Premier.



Mrs. Adelaide Durant

Married Rickenbacker, the American.
Air Ace.



Colonel E. M. House

Snapped in Downing Street after
break fasting with Lloyd George.



Big Tom Murray

Forming a bootblack's union.



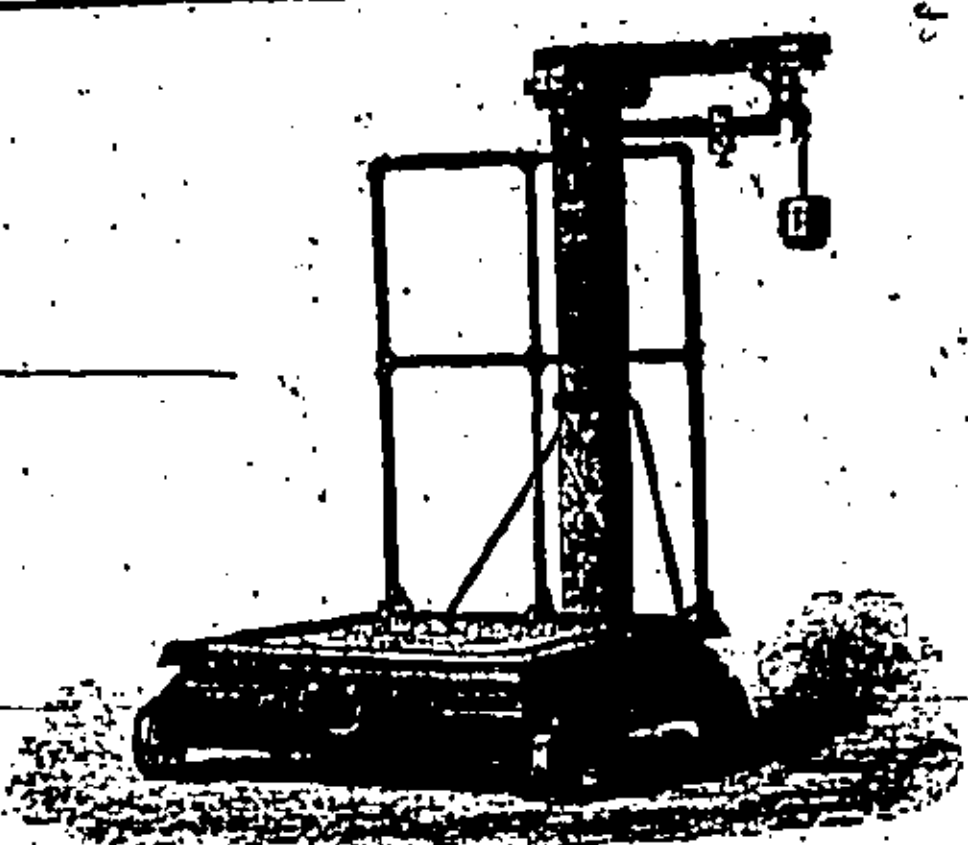
Fred Christoff

Disguised himself as a flapper and
arrested a man who had been
molesting women.



Rob. B. Garvey

Killed his father because the
stereographer was ricked.



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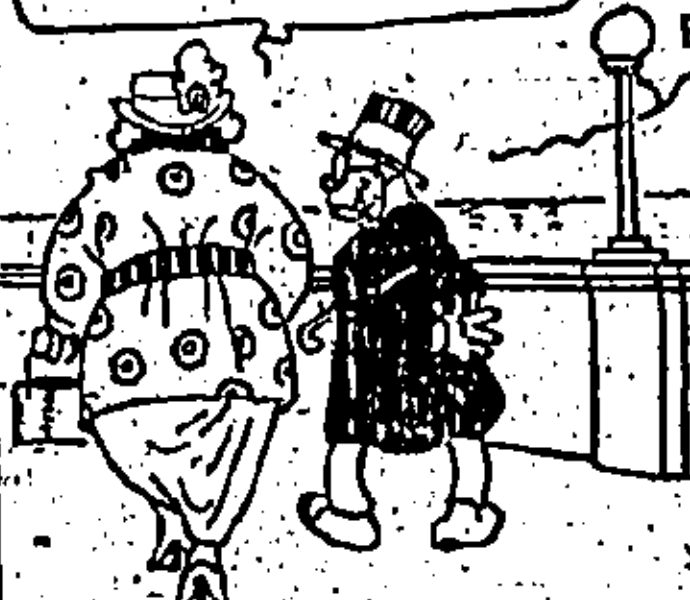
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many local doctors for its
accuracy and cheapness.

SEE US THEN, SEE

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY HAVING
THE SERVANT COOK CORNED
BEEF AND CABBAGE FOR YOU
WHILE I'M OUT? I GOT HOME
JUST IN TIME TO
PREVENT YOU FROM
HAVING IT.



I'M GOING TO THROW
IT IN THE RIVER TO
BE SURE YOU
DON'T GET IT!



NOW THAT
IT IS ALL
COOK I DON'T
SEE WHY YOU
DON'T LET ME
EAT IT!



THERE'S NO USE
TALKING. I'VE
MADE UP MY
MIND -



AW! NOW
LISTEN!



WOW! WILL
SHE EVER
LET IT DROP?



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 kong, China.

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SPORT.

HOCKEY.

CLUB v. GRENADIERS.

The Club lost their return match
 against the Grenadiers at Kowloon
 on Wednesday, by 5 goals to nil.

Play was very fast throughout, and
 five minutes from the start the
 soldiers broke through and scored.
 Even play followed for a while, but
 the Grenadiers' right wing broke
 away a few minutes from half time
 and finished a fine piece of individual
 play by putting his side further
 ahead.

The Grenadiers played with ex-
 cellent combination in the second half
 and added three more goals in the
 first ten minutes. Dashing away
 from the half-off, they ran through
 the Club's defence and scored a fine
 goal. Shortly afterwards they again
 swept down the field and scored an-
 other goal as the result of their ex-
 cellent combination. They continued
 to press, and despite of the strenuous
 defence put up by the Club, succeeded
 in adding a fifth goal.

The Club tried hard after this, but
 although they gave the soldiers
 defence some anxious moments in
 front of goal, they could not score,
 and had again to admit defeat.

RUGBY.

INTERPORT MATCHES.

Mr. A. W. Burkill, President of the
 Shanghai Rugby Football Club, gave
 a short review of the history of the
 game at the annual meeting of the
 Club which was held on October 20.
 He recalled that the first interport
 match was played against Tientsin in
 1908. Since then, 12 matches had
 been played, five in Shanghai and
 seven away. Shanghai won six and
 lost six, scoring 128 points against 116.
 Mr. Burkill also mentioned that it
 was probable that another invitation
 would be received from Hongkong
 this season, while Tientsin had already
 suggested a meeting at Hankow.

FOOTBALL.

CLUB v. S.C.A.

The following team will represent
 the Hongkong Club in their league
 game with South China "A" to
 morrow afternoon at 4.30, on South
 China ground—Rodger, Israel, Bi-
 shop, McPhail (Capt.), Stewart,
 Moore, Mair, Forsyth, Begg,
 Valentine and England.

UNITED v. POLICE RES.

The following will represent the United
 Athletic Club in the above second
 division league fixture, to morrow, on
 the United ground. Kick-off at 3 p.m.
 sharp:—Beach, Oulton, Urquhart;
 Leonard Mackenzie-Duncan; Wat-
 kins Brown, May, Derry and Chubb.

KOWLOON v. R.C.A.

The following will represent
 Kowloon in the above fixture, at
 Bookampoo.—Townsend, Wheeler,
 Knight, Morrison, King, A. Duncan,
 Millard, Hall, R. J. Brown, Mason,
 Coombe.

THE BLUE FUNNEL LINE

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REGISTERED AND PARCEL MAILS are closed 15 minutes earlier than the
 time given below unless otherwise stated, and where mails are advertised to close
 at or before 9 a.m. registered and parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m. on the
 previous day.

INWARD MAILS.

FROM SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28. YINGCHOW.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29. Yamaguchi Maru

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30. Tokushima Maru

EUROPE via Suez (Letters and Papers, London 28th Sept.) St. Albans

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1. Kaga Maru

OUTWARD MAILS.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27. Kowloon

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28. Kowloon

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29. Kowloon

MONDAY, OCTOBER 30. Kowloon

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31. Kowloon

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1. Kowloon

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2. Kowloon

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3. Kowloon

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4. Kowloon

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5. Kowloon

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6. Kowloon

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7. Kowloon

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8. Kowloon

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9. Kowloon

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10. Kowloon

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11. Kowloon

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12. Kowloon

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13. Kowloon

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14. Kowloon

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15. Kowloon

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16. Kowloon

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17. Kowloon

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18. Kowloon

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19. Kowloon

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20. Kowloon

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21. Kowloon

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22. Kowloon

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 23. Kowloon

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24. Kowloon

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 25. Kowloon

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26. Kowloon

ENTERTAINMENTS.

THE CORONET

EAST

LYNNE

KOWLOON

THEATRE

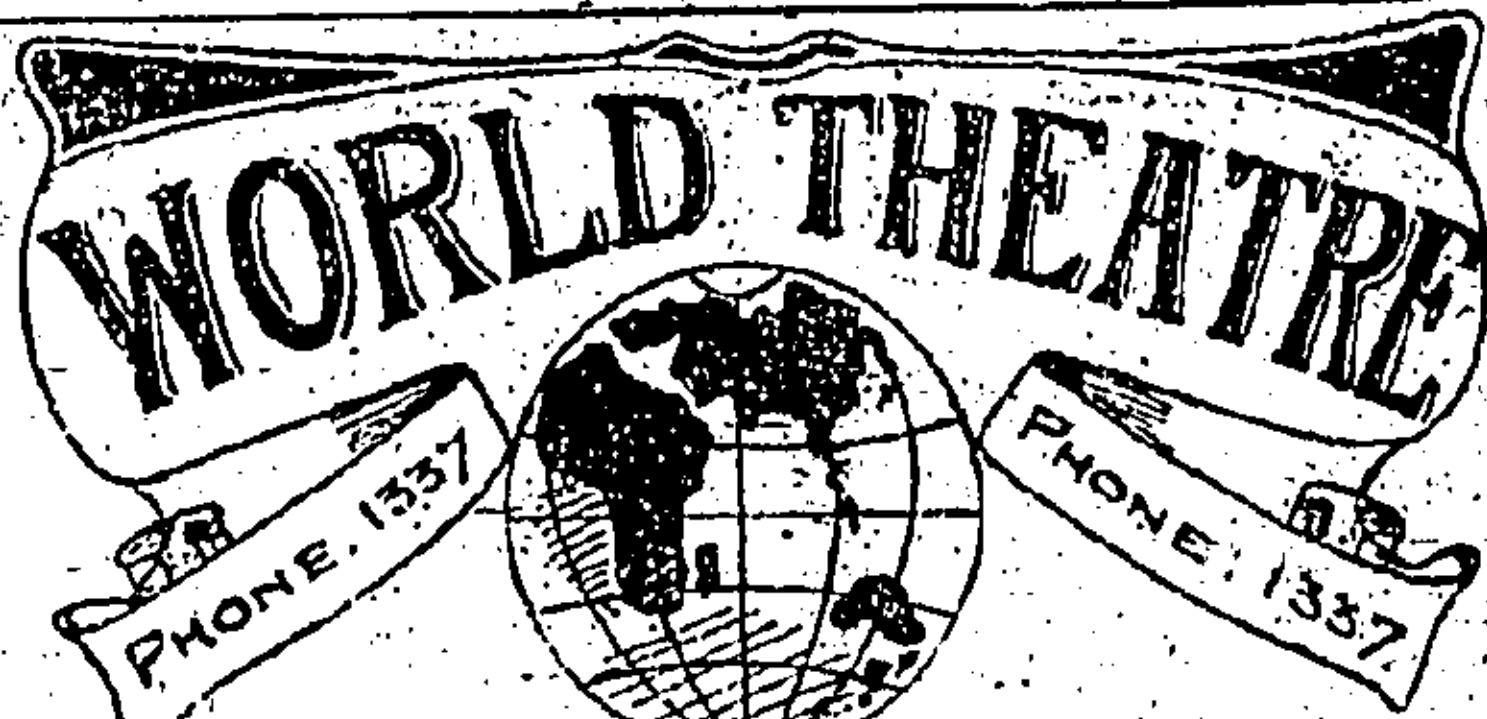
5.45 and 9.15

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The story of a girl who was a doubler about romances, and a man who made her believe.

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THE RUSSIAN FOLLIES. THEATRE ROYAL

The caption is probably misleading. The times which follow have nothing to do with Russia, the alleged excesses of the Soviet, Bolsheviks, or anything connected with the material affairs of an obviously simple and therefore great people. The Follies is a title adopted by a group of Russian dancers, who seek to interpret not only the fascinating dances of their own country, but those of others. They appeared at the Theatre Royal last night before an audience that was numerically large, and gave the "show" something Hongkong rarely gives—intelligent and appreciative attention.

There was an Indian dancer, a Russian and Polish dance, done to music by such masters as Rubinstein, Moszkowski, and Wieniawski, and as a concession to popular sentiment there was a Tango danced to a well known American tune which we seem to have heard often in Hongkong.

"A Dance of Love" done by Miss K. Makarowa and Mr. Juri Thomas seemed to bear the burden of the dances attempted. His make up as a woman dancer was clever, and as to his abilities there can be no question. Miss Makarowa was the principal lady dancer and her Russian dance and a Polka earned her encore. The dancing is not the only thing about this entertainment. Miss Tamara Rostova possesses a clear soprano voice which she uses with good effect. Her singing was much enjoyed, and equally enjoyed and she became the possessor of a floral tribute, offered in quite an unorthodox way, in that it was flung to the stage from a box in the upper circle. The incident afforded a little amusement but the action seemed sincere.

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